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THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE DEBATE ON THE BURIALS BILL.

We suppose we must yield to the immense pressure of the evidence round about us that we are living in close proximity to the last quarter of the nineteenth century; otherwise the debate on the Burials Bill in the House of Commons last Wednesday might have led us to doubt it. Only think of what is sometimes boastingly called the foremost and most enlightened deliberative assembly in the world debating for four or five hours the principle of a measure, the sole object of which is to allow parishioners who do not conform to the Established Church to inter their deceased relatives and friends with such religious rites and ministrations as they may deem most in accordance with their views and feelings at that most sorrowful hour of human destiny! So it was, however. The House of Commons, elected, in part at least, by Household Suffrage, could not resist the opportunity afforded it by the motion for reading Mr. Osborne Morgan's Burial Bill a second time without repeating a discussion which, besides being quite unnecessary, exhibited a narrow, exclusive, and intolerant spirit reflecting sadly enough upon the astounding difference there still subsists between ecclesiastical Christianity and that which has upon it the stamp of its own Founder. The discussion, it is true, was conducted without bitterness of phrase—although in one or two instances an insolence of tone peered through a decent phraseology—but the drift of it, on the part of the chief opponents of the measure, indicated a want of breadth, manliness, and humane feeling, which no honeyed expressions of respect could altogether conceal.

The ostensible objections to the measure were much the same as have over and over again been urged against it, and over and over again refuted. Perhaps they were elaborated with more care, but they did not exhibit a single novelty of feature. The feelings of Churchmen are too sensitive to admit of right being done in this matter. It might lead to things being said over the grave which might offend their taste, and jar upon those ecclesiastical assumptions, not to say unextinct superstitions, which have survived from mediæval times down to the present day. Earl Percy put it in the baldest possible way, when he said, "He had always understood consecrated ground to be ground set apart for the use of the Established Church. It was what was sometimes called 'God's acre,' and he should have thought that that was the place where members of the Church of England might be separated from Nonconformists in their death as they were in their life." The noble lord, in his unconsciousness of the fulness of meaning attached to the form of expression he chose to employ, revealed a spirit far more common, we believe, to the circle in which he moves than Dissenters in general have permitted themselves to suspect. There was a scornful sarcasm, too, in Mr. Scourfield's speech which, like the *ignis fatuus* glimmering over a bog, disclosed the rotten position in which he seemed so much at home. Talk of the injustice being not a practical, but only a sentimental, one, indeed! Why, whence does the injustice originate, and what maintains it, but a morbid sentiment which insists upon indulging itself at the expense of other people's common and incontestible rights?

The practical inconveniences of the concession sought for, were again made the most of. It would give occasion for brawls. It would invite indecorous and blasphemous manifestations. It would pave the way for further demands. Why brawls? Where there is no opposition, a funeral ceremony is not very likely to conduct to them—and opposition in the case supposed could only come from Churchmen. Why indecorous and blasphemous manifestations? There are none that we are aware of in our cemeteries. They do not occur in Scotland where the churchyards are free—nor in Ireland, where Roman Catholic and Protestant Episcopalians are put upon an equality. We have heard of no complaints of such from any of our colonies—and the last places in which they are likely to occur are the churchyards of our English villages and hamlets. As to the further demands, they will be made none the sooner because an instalment of justice has been promptly and gracefully yielded. The Church and the churchyard, it is quite true, become exclusive by the same hypothesis, and there may come a time—perhaps before the end of the present century—when both will stand in the same relation to the rights of parishioners. But the true answer to the objection is that the concession is not asked for. When Dissenters claim the use of the parish churches it will be time enough to refuse it. Withholding their claim to the use of the parish churchyards will not be likely to moderate their desire for a more ample religious equality. And, perhaps, when they are told that a modest Bill of this sort cannot be assented to because it is the beginning of Disestablishment, there will be formed amongst them a more resolute determination to begin the great work at the other end.

"But why do not Nonconformists have their own churchyards? Why do they seek to be buried in ours?" In the first place, as Mr. Richard very pertinently observed, "they are not yours any more than they are ours." Why should we have our own burial places when, as parishioners, we have a common share in those which already exist? Nothing but canon-law prevents our using the God's acre of a parish with the same liberty as that accorded to Churchmen; or if statute-law precludes access to it by our ministers, it equally violates our moral right. Why are we to make provision for perpetuating the injustice? The true reason, we apprehend, for the persistent denial of our claim, has only once or twice, and then covertly, been alluded to. The exclusive authority of the parson over the parish graveyard is one of the most visible emblems of his ecclesiastical supremacy in the parish. He cannot permit himself to be degraded, as he would esteem it, to the level of the ministers of the non-established bodies, in the very heart of his own domain. It would deprive him of one of "the outward and visible signs" of his own ascendancy, and would bring home the fact of that deprivation to the eyes and ears of all his parishioners. We can make allowance, therefore, for *his* dislike of the measure, but we cannot understand the sentimental objections to it which his Parliamentary friends make for him.

The Bill was read a second time by a smaller relative majority than that by which the principle of it was affirmed last Session. This means that the opposition to it is growing more intense; not that approval of it is losing ground. Better tactics were resorted to by the Noes—and we fear, less importance [illegible] to their vote by some of the Ayes—than was the case last year. Still, the difference may be partly accounted for by technical circumstances connected with the "ecclesiastical Wednesdays," which it is not necessary for us to explain. The Bill cannot be taken in Committee before June, so crowded is the list of orders set down until then. We hope it will get through the House of Commons. We fully anticipate its rejection by the House of Lords. Then, however, the time will have come for insisting upon Government taking the matter in hand. It is not much that we ask them to do for us—and we see no reason why they should find motive and time to assist in obtaining all the just demands of the Roman Catholics, and leaving Nonconformists to struggle against adverse influences as best they may.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

There have been many occasions when what appeared to be persecution has turned to the advantage of the persecuted. No stretch of language, however, will include the Ritualistic party amongst the persecuted. Of all men they have demanded the most from forbearance and the most from charity. What they have demanded has, on the whole, been given to them, but the final result has been an unreserved condemnation of the position which they now occupy. We give in another column some very plainly expressed opinions upon the Purchas Judgment—opinions so plainly expressed that, coming from the source they do come from, it is impossible to believe that they will not have some influence even upon the most incorrigible of the Ritualists. Outside of the purely clerical circle the opinion that has been expressed is that the Ritualists cannot, with any apparent honesty, maintain their position. They say that they will not leave the Establishment; everybody else says that they ought to leave, and must leave. We are no judges, however, of other men's consciences. Who is, or can be? But our columns show what is the judgment of others, and all we can add to it is, that though Ritualism may possibly prosper with rebellion against the recent judgment, honesty will certainly not prosper. Perhaps the *Pall Mall Gazette* has given the most unprejudiced view of the whole position, and we have therefore transferred its criticism to our columns. At the best the position

and criticism are equally melancholy, and there should have been no occasion, amongst Christians, for any remark upon them. The occasion having been given, the results are exactly what they should be.

Scarcely a week now passes that we do not receive a new testimony from Churchmen in favour of both disestablishment and disendowment. One of the most valuable testimonies in this direction is from the Rev. James Gornall, vicar of St. John's, Wernerth, near Oldham, which we find in a sermon preached on Sunday week at Wernerth, and reported in the *Oldham Chronicle* of last Saturday. The vicar took as his text the words, "To everything there is a season," and from these words preached exclusively upon the question of disestablishment. Mr. Gornall remarked that the age was one of rapid and important movements, men's opinions were changing and had changed, and that the position of the Church had changed with them. "The result,' said the preacher, "is that the original grounds of maintaining an established religion are for the most part swept away." Mr. Gornall proceeds to discuss the whole question with great calmness. He thinks—and we are especially glad to have these words from a Churchman—that the question being imminent, and affecting as it does the whole civil and religious life of the nation, "it seems desirable that we should try to so prepare the way for the discussion that, as far as possible, it may be argued on its own merits, and not be made the war-cry of political parties." Mr. Gornall proceeds to go through the whole question, taking, first, the headship of the Church; second, the Episcopal representation; third, the protection of its wealth; fourth, the security for a national religion; fifth, the security for union; six, the social question; and seventh, the independence of the clergy. Of course, we all know, this is not perfectly comprehensive, but, at the same time, these are undoubtedly the points which will and do first strike many men of great culture in the Church. Mr. Gornall reviews them, and comes to a conclusion expressed in the following words,—

On the whole, then, I do not see that there are any great advantages derived from the present relations of the Church with the State. I have touched upon the chief points urged by the supporters of the present state of things slightly and in a general way, as was necessary in such an address, still I think sufficiently to show that, regarded from a Church rather than a political point of view, there need be no great anxiety on the subject, nor any great fear of the consequences of a severance of the existing connection. I have viewed it as a Churchman, and not as a politician. I have no desire to enter into a consideration of the subject in its political aspect, because I feel that the less the Church is made the subject of political debate the better it is for all of us. Theological difficulties have produce an un-Christian feeling which is proverbial; political feeling is equally strong; the junction of the two in controversy can be productive of little but enmity and hatred of the bitterest kind; and every thoughtful man must feel it his duty to prevent, as far as he may, any discussion so prolific of mischief as one which is influenced by both political and religious party strife. As I stated at the beginning, I am persuaded that this question of establishment or disestablishment can be settled apart from party politics; yea, I would go even further, and say it can be settled without reference to party feeling either in politics or religion, if men can only be induced to approach its discussion in a candid spirit. And I have endeavoured to show that the Church has little really to lose by any change in her relations with the State; partly to allay the fears which some may not unnaturally entertain, and partly to indicate the course which many minds are pursuing upon this important question. The question is an important one, view it as we may; but to Churchmen it is doubly important, because they feel that the Church cannot do her appointed work in her present condition. Great changes are necessary, and great changes are imminent. What they may be I do not pretend to say; but I do say that there are principles now at stake which every Churchman regards as of infinitely more importance than the Church's connection with the State; that there is rapidly spreading among us a feeling that the Church must regain her proper position as an independent and free society, and that rather than she should remain much longer in her present restrained condition every temporal advantage should be abandoned and the Church should return to her state in the earliest ages, when to be a Christian was a reproach, and the lot of the Church's members was poverty, contempt, and persecution. If the Church is true to herself, to her own high spiritual character, we need fear nothing the world may say or do; and whether established or disestablished, whether in affluence or in poverty, she must prevail. As of old when, though poor and weak, she conquered the world, her strength lay in her purity and integrity, so too now will she be strong, if men are faithful and firm; but weak if we are faithless and lukewarm.

We have read the whole of Mr. Gornall's sermon, and can only say that we wish the question at issue could be discussed in the spirit which he has suggested, and in the manner of which he has given an example.

There are always people who seem to be satisfied with the day of small things, and amongst them must be reckoned many Churchmen of the present generation. For some years past there has been sitting a Royal Commission upon the formularies and other matters connected with Church Services. We have reported, from time to time, the results of the discussions of this Commission and of the evidence taken before it. The recommendations were, if not strong—which could scarcely have been expected—at least numerous; but the outcome of the whole is the Lectionary Bill now before the House of Lords. We explained last year the nature of this measure. Some Churchmen appear to attach importance to it; we attach no importance whatever to it. A few minor alterations in the mode of conducting Church Services will not win back the population of England to the Establishment. And, besides, what will our High-Church friends have to say to this Bill? It is originated in the House of Lords, will have to be approved—if approved—by a House of Commons of "Jews, Dissenters," and Infidels," and Convocation is left nowhere!

Our reports of meetings in favour of Disestablishment grow so much upon our hands that, just at present, we cannot find room for all that we should like to insert. It may be said, it is very true, that these meetings are originated by the Liberation Society, but, at the same time, they are open meetings, and any one who wishes to have his say can have it. We are glad, for old association's sake, to see how Mr. Conder has been received at Northampton and Kettering, and especially glad to read Mr. Cox's speeches—as the speeches of a Churchman—at other places. We had no idea, until recently, that people were so ready for Disestablishment as they appear to be. But appearances, notwithstanding, the battle will be a long, a hard, and a difficult one.

THE DISESTABLISHMENT MOVEMENT.

MEETING AT NORTHAMPTON.

On Monday, Feb. 27th, a lecture was delivered in the large Upper Schoolroom connected with College-street Chapel, in this town, by the Rev. G. W. Conder, the subject being, "Disestablishment of the English Church." There was a large attendance, and the greatest unanimity prevailed. P. P. Perry, Esq., J.P. (the mayor) presided, and he was supported by the Rev. J. T. Brown, the Rev. T. Arnold, the Rev. W. H. Stent, and other gentlemen.

The Mayor, in opening the meeting, said he was not there, of course, so much in his official capacity, as in the capacity of an individual, as a Christian, as a Nonconformist, as one who held certain views as to the channels through which religious influence, effort, and life should flow, as one who, from his youth upward, had looked upon what was called State-Churchism as a most baneful influence, as one of the most hindering and corrupting influences which could be brought to bear upon Christianity. (Applause.) And he said that without the slightest intention of speading in disparagement of any community of men that might think differently from himself. He honoured their sincerity and earnestness. He gave all classes and communities of Christians credit for sincerity. He was no foe to Episcopalianism or Presbyterianism, nor was he specially biassed in favour of Congregationalism, or of the body of whom they were reminded by the associations by which they were surrounded, viz., the Baptists. Nor did he look upon the distinctive principles of Wesleyanism as a *sine quâ non* of Christianity. He believed Christianity, in all ages of the world, would exist, thrive, and flourish amid great varieties of opinion, amid diversities of opinion as to the different modes of Church government and as to the best way of securing the truest method of Church government. He did but speak his own most firmly-rooted conviction, when he said that State-Churchism had been the bane of religion from the beginning even up to the present time. (Applause.) They had met together that night to hear a lecture on the subject, which should tend to the bringing to a crystalline state the notions prevalent amongst Nonconformists and amongst certain sections of the Church itself in favour of a severance of the Church and State. Although almost all classes in the Church, as well as out of the Church, had become convinced of the mischievous anomalies which the present system presented, there were large numbers in it who had yet a yearning for the upholding of the principle of the connection of Church and State. On the other hand, they, as Nonconformist Christians, said to their brethren over the border, "There will be no freedom of action, no full, flowing, flourishing Christian life among you, till you consent to cast off the chains of State which bind you—(applause)—and we, with all brotherly feeling, are willing to help you in so arduous a work." (Renewed applause.) They all entertain great hopes in regard to the English Church, now the process of disruption between Church and State had been brought to a successful issue in our sister country, Ireland. They must say, with regard to State-Churchism, it was such a principle that, if it had never existed, the persecutions, massacres, and destructions, perpetrated in the name of Christianity could hardly ever have taken place. (Applause.) He concluded by introducing his old friend Mr. Conder.

The Rev. W. Conder proceeded to deliver a lecture which was heard with great interest and received with repeated applause. At the conclusion,

The Rev. J. T. Brown said he had great pleasure in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Conder, who by his large, comprehensive treatment of the subject, by the great intelligence which had pervaded the lecture and by the careful terms in which it had been given, and the truth which had been conveyed by it, and above all by the elevated spirit of candour and kindliness by which it had been pervaded, was well qualified to represent the Society on whose behalf he came. The lecturer had carried his mind back a long way. He believed that in the history of this nation one of the greatest movements of modern times was the one in connection with which that meeting was held. Northamptonshire had the honour of originating modern missions. (Applause.) Northamptonshire had the honour of originating the Liberation Society. (Applause.) At Brington, only five or six miles from this town, the first step in this matter was taken. Mr. Mursell and Mr. Miall were in that region, and a few gentlemen resolved to request a meeting of London ministers for the formation of this society. He had the honour of putting his name to that resolution. (Applause.) And when he looked back and remembered the way in which the movement was at first received, he could not but wonder at the position they now occupied, and that Mr. Miall was about to propose a resolution which would not be received with scorn and derision, although with bitter opposition on the part of some, but with most thoughtful pondering on the part of a great number, and with most hearty sympathy on the part of an invincible few who would lead on to victory. (Applause.) He did wonder greatly that in so few years such a progress in such a movement at a time so utterly unpopular had been made; and from the past and from the signs around them now they might indeed take heart. If this were a question of mere Dissent he would sit down that moment and shut his mouth. He did not care about it in that light, but he cared about the spirituality of Christ's ministry being represented in him. He believed, if the Church were disestablished, it would liberate imprisoned forces, which he wanted to see free for the sake of morality, for the sake of truth, for the light of our land, for the elevation especially of our villages, and for the purification of all society—forces that were now held in bondage it would set free. On those grounds he felt profoundly in this matter, and he believed there would be seen to be no greater benefactors to this nation than the men who sought, not to destroy the Episcopal Church—(Hear, hear)—but simply to unloose the bands which bind her in a most unseemly and injurious union with the State. (Applause.) He had long felt with Mr. Conder that, before they could have unity and peace in this country religiously, disestablishment must come. (Hear, hear.) He did not believe there was a greater barrier to Christian concord than was that one. The social and religious aristocracy raised in our land—for that was what the preference of the clergy by the State really was—was sure to rankle and engender bitterness, and he longed to see the time when that injurious spectacle should be no more, and they should all stand on one level. Succeed they would. He recollected what Mr. Disraeli had once said in addressing his own friends in reference to this Society—"Remember that the history of success is the history of minorities." The marvellous remark was full of light and full of encouragement and hope to them. When he first came to Northampton he stood in a minority, advocating the abolition of the Corn-laws, and he was in Northampton that night. (Cheers.) When he came to Northampton he positively went in for those most dangerous things—household suffrage, vote by ballot, and a number of things of that kind. Household suffrage we had, and vote by ballot we were about to have. (Applause.) When he came to Northampton he was one of the wild enthusiasts—no, not then, but before—who really believed in the goodness of emancipating slaves. There were no slaves held by Britain now. He was not over old, and lived in Northampton still. He had petitioned in favour of the disestablishment of the Irish Church—it seemed Utopian, but he did it—and there was now no Established Church in Ireland. (Applause.) He now advocated the disestablishment of the English Church, and though it might not be the case, he should like to be amongst the men who lived to see the time when the Church should be free from the control of the State. (Cheers.) Let them only take heed that they advocated their cause in the purest charity, in the tenderest love, in the light, and warmth, and love of the very truth, and in the spirit of the Master for whose crown on earth they contend. Let them go to the battle with a heart of love as well as a heart of fire, and do their part for bringing about this grand result. (Applause.) He moved—

That this meeting is of opinion that the time has now arrived for the completion of the work of religious liberty in England, and that the principle applied by the Legislature last year to the Irish Church ought now to be applied to the English Church. (Applause.) This meeting therefore recommends that Charles Gilpin, Esq., and Lord Henley, the Borough members, be requested to give their earnest support to the motion about to be brought forward by Edward Miall, Esq., during the present Parliamentary session for the achievement of this object. (Loud applause.)

The Rev. Thomas Arnold felt it a great honour to second the resolution. They could now almost put the old arguments of justice and right on one side, and allow simply the principle of sympathy and kindness for men in distressing circumstances—(laughter)—to lead them energetically to do their utmost on their behalf. After the two decisions which had recently been come to by the Committee of the Privy Council, first in the case of Mr. Voysey, and secondly in the case of Mr. Purchas, he didn't see what standing-room either of the parties, represented by those two clergymen, could have in the Establishment. It would be a good thing, just as a matter of kindness to both of these sections of the Church, to give them leave to go out, and do their work as they might think proper to do it. What he said was in no spirit of unkindness to the Church. He was once

a Churchman himself. He had felt the bondage, and could not endure it; and therefore he came out. (Applause.) In his day there were men who hoped for a glorious future, a millenium, a marvellous future, that would set the whole Church loose. Therefore they said, "Let us be content with things as they are; when Christ comes He will make His Church as it ought to be." But the millenium did not seem to be nearer than it was thirty years ago; and these men who then sat still were beginning to lose their power and influence. So that the Evangelical party was undoubtedly the smallest and the feeblest party. That arose from the neglect of what conscience and the Word of God told them as to their duty in relation to God and the truth. Mr. Miall was about to move the proposition, already referred to, in the House of Commons. He thought Northampton not one of the least of the towns of England, and not one of those that had the least to do with great movements in the past, might make its voice heard and its influence felt in the House of Commons. (Applause.) He thought they had members who sympathised with them in this matter. (Hear, hear.) He knew Mr. Gilpin would sympathise with them. (Applause.) He was satisfied from his antecedents his whole heart was with them. He did trust that Lord Henley, though he was a member of the Established Church, would nevertheless see with them in this matter also, and go with them with all the earnestness he had shown them in former movements. He would entreat those who were present to make this subject a subject of earnest thought and examination. The sooner disestablishment came the better. The longer the Establishment existed the more that party grew in power that sought to ally itself with the Church of Rome, the more Ritualism would spread; and when the day of separation came there would be a tremendous scramble in order to get the largest portion of the spoil. There would be demands such as had been the case in regard to the Irish Church; and most of their leading statesmen were for treating them with the same generosity. And the result would be that this wealth, this influence, would be drawn, not to the maintenance of Protestantism, not for the spread of that spiritual religion which they all loved and desired to pursue, but drawn into the arms of the Church of Rome, and thereby giving an enormous lever whereby to act on the entire population. The sooner the separation took place the less the power of that party would be to injure Protestant, or rather Biblical Christianity. (Loud applause.)

The resolutions was carried amid loud applause.

Mr. CONDER having briefly acknowledged the vote of thanks, a similar compliment paid to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

BEDFORD.

On Monday evening a lecture on Disestablishment was delivered at the Assembly Rooms, Bedford, by the Rev. G. W. Conder. There was a numerous attendance, and the chair was occupied by James Howard, Esq., M.P., one of the members for the borough.

The CHAIRMAN in his opening speech said:—

I have been told during the last few days that in coming here this evening to take the chair on this occasion, I run very great risk of offending some of my political supporters. (Hear, hear.) That I don't believe for one moment—(cheers)—because my views upon ecclesiastical questions and Church establishments were very well known in Bedford long before you did me the honour of sending me as your representative in Parliament—(Hear, hear)—and I cannot believe that any true Liberal will think the worse of a man for coming forward to state his opinions and advocate principles which he has honestly formed upon a great public question; indeed, I believe you would think worse of your representative if he shrank from coming forward on a great public occasion to express his sentiments and advocate his opinions, which he has honestly formed, upon a great public question. (Cheers.) During the Irish Church controversy those who advocated disestablishment were denounced as enemies to and traitors of the Church, and they were described as ecclesiastical robbers and spoliators, and other more or less pungent epithets were applied to them; but those who take part in the coming struggle must make up their minds that they will be assailed with far more fury, and that they will be denounced with tenfold more virulence, now that the English Church is concerned. However, those who are timid or weak-kneed had better keep out of the fray. (Cheers and laughter.) I was speaking just now of the Irish Church. I believe the prospects of the Church in Ireland are brighter than they have been for the last century. (Hear, hear.) Last week I received a letter from a friend of mine, who is not only a good Protestant, but, as some would say, a good Churchman, and he writes to this effect:—"The general opinion, in which I share, is that the Church has benefited by the change"—that is to say disestablishment—"My opinion also is that half of the opponents of the bill acknowledge the benefit of it now." Some much for the disestablishment of the Irish Church. Some five-and-twenty years ago I remember Mr. Miall delivering from this very platform—(cheers)—a lecture upon the relations of the State and the Church. From that lecture I was led to investigate the subject for myself, and I came to the conclusion that the patronage of the Church by the State was not only a source of weakness to the Church itself, but was injurious to the religious interests of the country (Hear, hear)—and I would, at the outset, remark that in advocating the disestablishment of the English Church, I do so from no motives of hostility to the Church of England itself. (Cheers.) There is much in the Church which I admire, and I would be the last to take any step which I believe would, in effect, impair the usefulness of that Church and retard the progress of religion in this country; and when I say I advocate the disestablishment of the Church of England, I would say I would not despoil her of the wealth she rightly enjoys. I am not an advocate of taking away that which rightfully belongs to her, but I advocate, what most right-minded Churchmen would advocate, a fairer distribution of that wealth. The subject of disestablishing a National Church I conceive to be one of the gravest questions that can occupy the attention of the country, and it is a subject which should be approached not only without passion, but with the utmost calmness. I have endeavoured to form my opinions not so much from surrounding circumstances as from abstract reasons, and have taken my stand upon the broad ground of the religious equality of every member of the State. (Cheers.) I maintain that the State has no concern with the religious opinions of the people of that State. (Cheers.) It has no right to interfere with any form of worship which the members think right to adopt. Religion is, after all, a personal question. I have said that I take my ground upon the religious equality of all. That is a principle for which Nonconformists have been battling for 200 years past, and when they remember the rights they have wrested from unwilling opponents, and the victories they have achieved over intolerance, ignorance, misrepresentation, wealth, and influence, they need not doubt or fear the issue of the coming struggle. (Hear, hear.) Our Universities, under a Liberal Government, are about to become national institutions. (Cheers.) The time has not yet arrived, but it is not far distant, when all the high places of our Universities with all their honours and emoluments will be thrown open to the whole of the people without any distinction of grade or rank. (Cheers.) John Bright (great cheering for Mr. Bright) once said—and his is a name that never ought to be mentioned on a Liberal platform without an echo—(renewed cheers)—that the only difference between himself and his opponents was that he was a few years ahead of them. That the English Church will share the fate of the Irish Church no man who is capable of studying the political history of the country can for a moment doubt. I am one of those who believe that the exclusive privilege of any Church or any body of men, was doomed when that Reform Bill stolen by Disraeli from his opponents became the law of this country. Nonconformists are more than ever determined never to rest until they have obtained perfect religious equality. (Cheers.) The advocates of this principle are becoming stronger and stronger in the House of Commons every session, and perhaps, what is more significant than either, earnest Churchmen are beginning to complain of the cramping effects of State alliance. I am one of those who believe that it would be a bright day for the Church of England when, relieved from the shackles of the State, it will find itself in possession of the advantages of self-government. (Cheers.) It will then be able not only to cast down a Voysey or a Colenso, but will be able to purge itself from Popery and from wolves in sheep's clothing—(prolonged cheers)—and perhaps what is better than all, it will be free to stretch out its arms to other churches, and perhaps bring about what all earnest Christians of all shades of opinions desire, the unity or the unification of the Protestant Churches. (Cheers.) The bishops, when that happy day shall arrive, will then, when relieved of their secular duties in the House of Lords, be able to give their undivided attention to the ecclesiastical and spiritual wants of their dioceses—and, when that happy day arrives, parishes, or as it is termed cure of souls, will not be bought and sold like merchandise to the highest bidder—(cheers)—for then the laymen of the Church of England will have a voice in this matter. (Renewed cheers.) And I would address you, sir (the lecturer), in particular upon that subject, for perhaps you may not know that in the parish in which this very meeting is held, during the last twelve years this parish, with its cure of souls, has been changed or sold to strangers no less than three times, and I am informed it is about to be sold again with the District Church of Holy Trinity, of which our lamented friend Mr. Fitzpatrick has been incumbent. [A Voice: "Charles Whitbread."] I ask any of you Churchmen, is that a state of things that ought to be allowed? I ask you whether you should like a parish such as St. Paul's or Trinity to be handed over to be sold to the highest bidder? I ask you whether you can think such a thing can be pleasing or acceptable to the Great Head of the Church? Is it right that the laborious, earnest, and good men, who I am happy to say are to be found through the country in the Church of England, and do the work, are to be paid with a mere miserable pittance, whilst others, with aristocratic connections, are to be promoted to high places and endowed with enormous incomes? I say that when the Church is disestablished, and laymen have a voice in the Church affairs, these things will come to an end.

Mr. CONDER then delivered his address, which was very cordially received, and at the close the Rev. J. BROWN moved a resolution approving of disestablishment, which was seconded by Mr. CARRUTHERS, and carried without opposition.

KETTERING.

On Wednesday last Mr. Conder lectured at the Corn Exchange, Kettering. The *Northamptonshire Mercury* says that there was a crowded assembly. All the speakers were quietly listened to. The church bells were rung nearly all the time the proceedings lasted, and elicited from the lecturer and other speakers good-tempered allusions to so uncommon an event as ringing in honour of a lecturer of the Liberation Society. The Rev. THOMAS TOLLER presided, and, in opening the meeting, said that the question of disestablishment was deeply entering into the minds of the people of this country, and among many members of the Church it was thought that its separation from the State would be a benefit to it. Many hold that opinion, and he himself thought it would be a great blessing to the Church itself. It was desirable that this question should be earnestly and forbearingly entered upon, and it is in that spirit that the Liberation Society always had discussed the question. The Rev. W. CONDER next gave his lecture. At its conclusion, the Rev. J. B. MYERS moved a resolution approving of Mr. Miall's motion. He hoped that Mr. Gladstone would do for the English and Scotch Churches what he did in 1869 for the Irish—set them free. (Cheers.) The Rev. W. CLARKSON, of Market Harborough, seconded the motion. On being put to the meeting, it was carried against two. Mr. CONDER, on proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman, said he did not think he was so well known at Kettering as to have the bells rung in honour of his visit that night. He was very fond of music, and the ringers must have had a warm job. He felt inclined to vote 5s. towards refreshments, which they must stand so much in need of. (Laughter.) Mr. J. T. STOCKBURN said that for the last twelve or thirteen years parties in Kettering had contributed 10*l.* or 12*l.* per annum towards the funds of the Society, and he hoped in future that amount would be increased. The chairman briefly acknowledged the vote, and the meeting concluded.

CONWAY, NORTH WALES.—On Tuesday evening, Feb. 28, the Rev. John Evans (J. D. Ffraid), delivered to a large and attentive audience in the Independent Chapel, a most interesting lecture, full of convincing arguments in favour of the great object of the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control"; and his telling appeals were ably seconded by the chairman, David Owen, Esq., and by the Rev. I. R., the Rev. W. Hughes, the Rev. S. R., and W. Bridge, Esq. At the close of the meeting a resolution in approval of Mr. Miall's motion for disestablishment, and expressing a hope that he would be supported by every Liberal member for Wales, was passed unanimously and with much enthusiasm.

ADDITIONAL MEETINGS.—We have reports of lectures of a similar character delivered at Nottingham, Belper, Ripley, Ilkeston, and Melbourne, for which we cannot at present find space. Last night the Rev. R. W. Dale was to attend as a deputation from the Society at a meeting at Wolverhampton. On Monday and Tuesday next Mr. Carvell Williams and the Rev. Edward White are to attend meetings at Cambridge and Peterbro'. On Monday and the following days, the Rev. G. W. Conder is to lecture at Gloucester, Stroud, and Worcester. The Rev. Chas. Williams is next week to address meetings in South Wales. Nottingham is to have a meeting on the 28th inst., and Bristol on the 30th.

THE PURCHAS JUDGMENT.

PROPOSED ACTION OF THE RITUALISTS.

(From the *John Bull*.)

We hear that there was a meeting of clergymen and laymen aggrieved by the Purchas judgment on Monday, at which were present, among other clergymen, the Revs. the Hon. R. Liddell, R. T. West, C. J. Le Geyt, J. Going, D. Nihill, Dr. Littledale, T. W. Perry, and E. A. Hillyard; and of laity, the Earl of Limerick, Lord Eliot, and the Hon. C. L. Wood. It is said that at this meeting it was unanimously resolved not to obey the judgment, so far as regards the position of the celebrant, be the results of refusal what they may. The feeling was that the controversy of north end *versus* north side involved an important question of doctrine, and that it would be better to fight the matter now than after the Bennett Judgment, should it be averse. A feeling was expressed (we believe without any foundation) that the Bishop of London strongly dissented from the judgment, and would not enforce it except compelled so to do by the Church Association. The incumbents seemed prepared to resign their livings. On Thursday a meeting was held at the house of a well-known M.P., of more moderate Churchmen, under the presidency of the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of York, at which Mr. Liddell, Mr. Perry, and the Hon. C. L. Wood were present of those previously named. Lord Clinton spoke strongly as to the manner in which the feelings of moderate Churchmen were wounded; and, though most of the clergy present, including the Revs. B. Webb, Morgan Cowie, W. H. Milman, and others, were prepared to obey if singly ordered by the bishop, it was determined that a temperate memorandum, addressed to the bishops, should be drawn up, pointing out the consequences of the judgment. A country clergyman present stated that, in his rural deanery, out of thirteen clergymen five only celebrated eastward, but he felt sure that the other eight would sign such a document. Mr. Perry tried to induce those present to make a similar stand for vestments, but this was thought inexpedient. Those clergymen, we understand, who do not intend to make any alteration in their ritual, mean to take their stand on the fact that no counsel has been heard for Mr. Purchas, and to ask for a case, so that there may be arguments. Except the Vicar of St. Columba, Haggerston, who childishly adopted the biretta and relit his altar-lights, no change seems to have been made on Sunday. It is said that a leading Evangelical at Leeds intends to leave off the black gown.

The *Globe* says:—"We are informed that the last ritual judgment will be resisted *à outrance* by many of the London High Church clergy. They consider that the doctrine of sacrifice is involved in the position of the celebrant at the Communion-table, and they are prepared to maintain that doctrine at all costs. They repudiate all idea of secession to Rome. It is stated that the Bishops of Winchester and Oxford have been accustomed to celebrate in front of the altar."

The *John Bull* understands that the Bishop of Winchester has advised his clergy—of whom many have been in the habit of saying the Prayer of Consecration "standing before the table"—to conform to the law as enunciated in the recent judgment; although he is personally unable to reconcile it with former judgments. On this the *Record* remarks:—"That the Archbishop of York read that part of the judgment in the Purchas case which Bishop Wilberforce imagines to be a contradiction of the decision in the Mackonochie case, on which the Archbishop and Lord Chelmsford also sat

in judgment. Bishop Wilberforce has evidently been misled in his interpretation by his pet Chancellor Sir Robert Phillimore, from whom we fear he has imbibed much bad law."

The *Standard* believes that "the moderate High-Church clergy are not to suffer under the judgment 'In re Purchas.' So far as the southern counties are concerned, it is not intended to enforce the decision about standing at the north end. It is stated that if any attempt is made to deprive any of the London Ritualistic clergy of the vestments, Deans Mansel and Stanley and their canons will be called upon to wear copes on festivals, and in case of refusal will be proceeded against.

OPINIONS ON THE JUDGMENT.

Mr. Beresford Hope, M.P., has written to the *Guardian*, criticising that portion of the judgment in the case Hibbert *v.* Purchas, which refers to the position of the priest at the prayer of concecration. He contends that it is no part of that series of ceremonies which has come into such prominence and created so much disturbance during late years, under the appellation of "Ritualism." He mentions the following incident, which occurred during the sittings of the Ritual Commission:—

The question had arisen there of some alteration in the rubric intended to embody the views enunciated in the recent judgment. Thereupon the Chairman, Archbishop Longley, rose, and, after premising that his own practice and feelings were adverse to the central position of the priest, emphatically stated that it was adopted by so many of the clergy that any attempt to limit it would produce "exasperation." This was a strong word from one so mild and courteous as Archbishop Longley, and I noted it at the time. It produced its effect in the Commission, and the question was not again raised. In the spirit of the Archbishop's warning, I contend that it is the duty of all who love our Church, and who desire to live and die in her service, to see that this exasperation shall not break out.

Canon Liddon writes a letter to the same paper, from which the following is an extract:—

Infidelity menaces us with intellectual forces greater than at any previous period in the history of the Christian Church, and here we Christians are waging a war of mutual extermination about questions of ceremonial. Far less important than this consideration is the bearing of these struggles on the security of the Establishment. But if the High Church party is desired to take its choice between submission to a tribunal which proscribes its historical traditions, and a separation from the English Episcopate which it shrinks from as from schism (and therefore as sin in the sight of God), the result is not difficult to foresee. Churchmen will, to a very great extent indeed, find relief from the dilemma in a third course—viz., co-operation with the political forces which, year by year, more and more steadily are working towards disestablishment. This is not a menace; it is the statement of a simple fact. It will, I trust, suggest to many others than those who are directly interested in the particulars of this judgment, that if the historical basis of the Church of England is to be narrowed down to the proportions of a Puritanical sect, or something very like it, it will not by any means be certain that the expulsion of the representatives of Andrewes and Keble from the ranks of the Church's ministry will be the only consequence of the proceeding.

The *Guardian* itself is evidently afraid that something serious will come out of the judgment, and counsels "calmness and sobriety of judgment. There is no hurry."

The *Saturday Review*, assuming that in the principal Ritualistic churches no attention is paid to the commands of the Judicial Committee, asks what is to follow? The Church Association, of course, will have its answer ready. The law must be enforced by the suspension, and, if need be, the deprivation, of all who disobey it. Nothing can be easier in theory, few things less easy when it comes to practice. No doubt, not only the Ritualist, but all the High Church clergy can be turned out of their livings if they are beneficed, or refused licences if they are curates; but how will the ejection of two zealous and influential parties in the Church affect the fortunes of the Establishment? An overt schism in the Church of England would be almost certain to precipitate an ecclesiastical revolution. For the disregard of the Privy Council's orders will not be confined to those extreme partisans whose singular want of wisdom has in some degree brought about this catastrophe. It will extend to men whose ceremonial is of the mildest order. The disadvantages which would follow upon the non-enforcement of the Judicial Committee's prohibition are less serious than those which would follow upon its being enforced. What can one say, however, of the ecclesiastical statesmanship which gives the Church of England only a choice between two evils? Nothing, except that it is unworthy of Lord Hatherley—and what was to be expected from the Archbishop of York? As for the Bishop of London and Lord Chelmsford, one is not called upon to define the weight which public opinion has long ago assigned to their judgment in ecclesiastical matters.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* thinks that the Ritualists are defending an important principle, whatever the soundness of their views, if they really mean to say that the State has no business to interfere in the matter at all. They are still, indeed, rather unfortunate in the special issue selected. The greatness of a cause is in some degree measured in popular estimation by the greatness of the conflicts to which it leads. If the question had been whether or not some vitally important doctrine might be preached by the clergy, people would have recognised the merit of its representatives. But when the question turns upon such petty details, some degree of ridicule will attach, rightly or wrongly, to the men who are squabbling over trifles; and people will be apt to infer that a great religious movement would have come into conflict with its adversaries on a more exciting issue. But there is another point of view from which the trial is more unfortunate—

We can perfectly understand men objecting, as the leaders of the Ritualists object, to a State-Church altogether. We could understand them if they drew the natural consequences from such a theory—that is, if they separated from the State-Church and defied the usurped authority of the Privy Council. But it is unintelligible that, while avowing this principle, they should nevertheless acknowledge the authority which they repudiate so far as to occupy churches which are under the government of the State, and carry on lawsuits in the courts. They hold a false position which is neither one thing nor the other. They consider the rule of the State to be sacrilegious, and yet, instead of defying the law, they try to evade it by all manner of unworthy expedients. The law, for example, forbids a clergyman to wear a particular kind of cap. The Ritualist clergyman does not say, As you have the right to settle anything about my cap, I will have nothing to do with Churches in which you are supreme. He only tries to dodge the law by carrying his cap in his hand. He is forbidden to mix water with his wine, and therefore he tries to circumvent the regulation by mixing it in the vestry. He is ordered to stand at the north side of the table, and he tries to make out that he may stand at the north end of the west side. In ordinary human affairs we should stigmatise such conduct as pettifogging evasion. Give up your position as the minister of a State-Church or submit to its necessary conditions like a straightforward man; but to hold the position and to strain all the resources of your ingenuity after the pattern of a quibbling attorney is conduct in which we strive in vain to recognise a character worthy of a martyr to deep convictions. We see the same effect produced at opposite poles of the Church. The Rationalist tries to prove that he may contradict every Article of the Church so long as he avoids contradicting it in a particular form of words. The Ritualist tries to prove that he may twist every ceremonial to the likeness of the Roman Catholic practice so long as by dexterous interpretations he can keep on the windy side of certain elastic rubrics. We fully believe in the honesty of both parties; but we must say that, with the best possible intentions, they are falling into practices which, it not fatal to their own sincerity, will be fatal to the belief in their sincerity among the public at large. We need not endeavour to compare the degrees of blame to be attached to either party. Both of them, as it seems to us, are in a thoroughly false position; and they will at any rate be under more favourable sanitary conditions, so far as their moral health is concerned, when they have fairly looked their position in the face and given up the attempt to carry out religious reforms by a systematic straining of laws to cover practices which they were specially designed to exclude. What may be the effect on the Church of England is another question.

The *Daily Telegraph* thinks that the victory of the Church Association is too complete, because it embraces the vast majority of High Churchmen, and these are consequently driven to make common cause with the Ritualists.

It affects Low-Churchmen in two important respects, and Broad-Churchmen also, though they will probably accept their grievances with more stoicism than either of the other parties is likely to do. But, though Broad Churchmen are comparatively indifferent as to matters of doctrine and ritual, they feel keenly the impolicy of narrowing the historical basis of the Anglican Church; and we may expect to see them throwing the weight of their influence on the side of the High-Church party, should any attempt be made to drive the latter out of the Establishment. It is obvious, therefore, that the members of the Church Association have committed a great blunder in tactics. Their success has been so thorough that it may easily defeat itself. They have succeeded in uniting into one compact phalanx the extreme Ritualists and the moderate—which is by far the largest—portion of the High-Church party. In addition, they have thrown an apple of discord into the midst of the Low-Church camp, of which the Ritualists will not be slow to avail themselves. The moderate section of the Evangelical party have all along disapproved the policy of the Church Association, and they are not likely to be conciliated by a judgment which revives against themselves the use of an obsolete garment. Thus, any attempt to extend the sweep of the Purchas judgment might raise against the prosecutors an opposition before which they would have to retreat, losing the *prestige* which their recent victories have given to them. We trust that the attempt will not be made. Let the Bishops look to it. If they do not wish to play into the hands of the Liberationists, they will speedily discourage any intestine warfare within the bosom of the National Church. Religious establishments are on their trial all over the world, and are not strong enough to bear any reckless experiments on their vitality. If the different parties in our Church cannot make up their minds to live harmoniously together, the State, weary of endless ecclesiastical squabbles, may decide on severing the bonds which unite the disputants in one communion. Public opinion has sometimes a strange tendency to ripen fast, as the fate of the Irish Church has recently shown. Unless we are greatly mistaken, the next election will show a large accession to the Dissenting ranks, and for this result the extreme Ritualists and the members of the Church Association will have to share the responsibility. Between them they have succeeded in bringing the question of disestablishment in England within the possibilities of the present generation. The Ritualists have done so of set purpose, and the Church Association has thus far played into their hands.

THE CHURCH ASSOCIATION AND THE RECENT JUDGMENTS.

The annual meeting of the Church Association at St. James's Hall on Wednesday last, following so close upon the judgment of the Judicial Committee in the Voysey and Purchas cases, was naturally of rather a jubilant character. There was a large attendance. In the absence of Mr. Joseph Hoare, Mr. T. R. Andrews presided. It was reported that the council had decided on the formation of a branch of the Church Association, to be called "Clerical and Lay Union." The special work of the union will be—

To act as a consultative body to advise on questions affecting the interests of Protestant and Evangelical truth within the Church of England.

To establish communication with clerical and lay associations, constituted on like principles, and to encourage the formation of them where they do not at present exist.

To suggest to local associations subjects for consideration on which it may be thought important to ascertain the opinion of Evangelical Churchmen, and to take measures to give effect to the prevalent opinion of the body, by an annual aggregate meeting or otherwise.

To encourage concerted action for the advancement and progress of spiritual religion.

A committee has been formed to consider the organisation of this union, and the council have every confidence that the members of the association will approve of this effort to strengthen the Evangelical body of the Church. It was also stated that the number of associations and members had increased during the year, that of the former being 165, and of the latter nearly 9,000. The balance of receipts over expenditure was nearly 600*l*. Resolutions were passed affirming the necessity of resisting encroachments on the Evangelical teaching and the Protestant teaching of the Church, and recognising the special importance of pressing forward the reform of the Ecclesiastical Courts, and of watching Parliamentary action on the reports of the Ritual Commissioners, and adopting the arrangements for the institution of a union committee. Among the speakers were Lord Fitzwalter, Dean Close, Canon Hoare, and the Rev. J. C. Ryle, vicar of Stradbroke.

The following extract from the chairman's opening address will give some idea of the drift of the meeting:—

The decision in the Purchas case is of incalculable importance; we cannot estimate fully the importance and the ramifications of the decision. It was a most exhaustive one. It was a most satisfactory one, and it will have a wider application, and it arrives just in the nick of time. It was high time to have it authoritatively pronounced whether the Church of England was Protestant or not. (Cheers.) The question now is, having obtained this clear and coincident judgment, with common-sense, what will be the result? Will it be obeyed or disobeyed? Well, if some extreme men should venture to disobey the law, I think they will find that they are fighting in a losing cause, that the law must be stronger than any individual, and that, unless the law can enforce the obligation of obedience, it is not worth anything. (Cheers.) I think, therefore, there will be in the great majority of cases obedience, and where there is disobedience we must remit these men to the kind consideration of the bishops. (Hear, hear.) It will ill become me to say one word against the bishops. They have been very cautious. (Hear, hear.) They perhaps have had some colour for their non-action, but at least they have not been in haste to mark these men as offenders. But whatever justification they had, were it as flimsy as a cobweb, that is now put on one side, and no ingenuity can now justify non-action on the part of the bishops. (Cheers.) The name of the Bishop of London is mentioned in the report, and I think too good of his lordship to say that he has any sympathy at all with Ritualism or Ritualists. (Hear, hear.) I believe him to be a perfectly sincere and conscientious man. I have no doubt that he is a cautious man, that he is a man who likes peace. He is placed so as to preside over a Church that is comprehensive, and we cannot blame him for being cautious. But I believe that now the law is defined the Bishop of London will be as firm in enforcing obedience to that law as he has been pertinacious hitherto in not taking any active measures. (Hear, hear.) But while endeavouring to place a load on the bishops' shoulders, let us not forget that we ourselves have a duty to perform. The law is so clearly defined now that we can have no doubt about it; and the Church Association intend to embody in a handy book the late judgment, so that no man or woman can plead ignorance as to what is the law and what is not the law. (Cheers.) It is our duty as members of the Church of England to see that the law is obeyed. Let not the bishops have this excuse, "We have no complaints." When there is a violation of the law, let there be an abundance of complaints. (Cheers.) Do you, the laity of the Church of England, be faithful, be vigilant, be unsparing. Be not petulant, hasty, or equivocal; but wherever there is a clear infraction of this authoritative decision, let the bishop have no peace until he interferes. (Loud and repeated cheers.)

Lord FITZWALTER said that they had come to that pass that if a man went into some of our churches he could not tell whether he was in a Roman Catholic or in a Protestant church. If that was not a good reason for the Protestants of England to rouse themselves, he knew not what could have been a good reason. (Hear, hear.) Dean CLOSE made a strong anti-Popery speech, and said he knew several Romanists who were now in the ministry of the Church of England. Since the decision against Ritualism the Bishops had no other alternative left than to turn those out of the Church who continued Ritualistic practices. He urged the laity to do all in their power to uphold the doctrine of the Reformation.

The Rev. J. C. RYLE concluded an energetic speech by saying:—

In ages gone by it has been too much the fashion to speak of the Evangelical party in the Church of England as if it were a tolerated body, when they are in fact the representatives of their reforming forefathers. I feel that we ought to nail our colours to the mast and wave them high. We are the true Churchmen. The question has been put to the trial in the highest court of law, and it has there been decided in effect that if any body of men are so, we are the true Churchmen of the present day. Then let me give you a little further advice. Don't be in a hurry any of you to leave the Church of England, because many of her members are trying to lead her back to Rome. (Hear, hear.) Let us stick to the ship and not give her up. (Loud cheers.) With no public opinion out of doors to back them, our Evangelical forefathers, such men as Romaine, Venn,

and Berridge, stood fast by the Church of England; and shall not we stand by her when we have far more to encourage and support us? (Cheers.) We all know that desertion is a cowardly thing, and let us not be fainthearted Churchmen, but let us prepare to do battle manfully for the great principles which are threatened. Evangelical men inclined to leave the Church of England on account of her present difficulties are, relying on it, among the best allies of Rome. (Hear, hear.) Again, don't be afraid of being called narrow-minded, persecuting, bigoted men. Let us be content with the testimony of a good conscience, let us stand up for God's faith, let us walk in the footsteps of our martyred forefathers, and let us cling firmly as they did to pure unadulterated Gospel truth. My own mind has long been made up. I see troublous times before us. I see a movement for disestablishment about to be revived by men like Mr. Miall; and determined as I am at present to resist that movement in every way in my power, believing the existence of an Established Church to be for the advantage of the country, still I say rather than the mass and the confessional should be brought back to the Church of England, I would have that Church broken in pieces and disestablished for ever. (Cheers.)

The *Church Review* is informed that there is a great probability that the suspended sittings of the Vatican Council may be resumed at Antwerp in the course of the ensuing summer.

Canon Danell, it is stated, is to be the new Roman Catholic Bishop of Southwark, in the room of Dr. Grant, deceased.

It appears in a statement from the *Dundee Advertiser* that some persons have been turned out of their holdings in Caithness-shire for choosing a minister of their parish against the wishes of their landlord.

DR. VANCE SMITH'S long-expected work in reply to Canon Liddon's Bampton Lectures on the Deity of Christ, is, we are glad to learn, more than halfway through the press. Its title will probably be "The Bible Compared with Popular Theology, especially as represented by Dr. Liddon, Lord Hatherley, and the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone." The Lord Chancellor, it may be necessary to remind our readers, published a highly orthodox work on "The Continuity of Holy Scripture," and Mr. Gladstone a laudatory treatise on "Ecce Homo." Dr. Vance Smith's work has had an excellent advertisement in the recent proceedings of Convocation.—*Inquirer.*

THE SURPLICE IN LEEDS.—The decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, to the effect that the surplice is the only legal vestment of the clergy "at all times of their ministration," has caused caused considerable stir amongst the Evangelical clergymen of Leeds, who are accustomed to change their surplice for a black gown when preaching. If, after the highest decision, such a change of vestment be made, it will clearly be an infraction of the law. We understand that at the chief Evangelical church in Leeds—St. George's—the Rev. J. Blomefield will in future conform to the law, and wear a surplice in the pulpit. Except when a bishop has preached in St. George's, the black gown has been worn in the pulpit ever since its consecration in 1838.—*Leeds Evening Express.*

THE MIDLAND GENERAL BAPTISTS AND MR. MIALL'S MOTION.—The Midland Conference of the General Baptist Churches (representing a membership of more than 9,000), met at the Osmaston-road Chapel, Derby, on Tuesday, the 28th ult., the Rev. T. Goadby, B.A., of Derby, in the chair. The following resolution was proposed by the Rev. W. R. Stevenson, M.A., of Nottingham, and seconded by the Rev. J. Salisbury, M.A., of Hugglescote, and supported by H. Webster Earp, Esq., of Melbourne, and carried unanimously: "That this conference heartily approves of the resolution which Mr. Miall intends to move in the House of Commons on the Disestablishment of the English Church, and recommends our friends to request their representatives in Parliament to give that resolution their support.—CHARLES CLARKE, B.A., Secretary."

ECCLESIASTICAL DISCIPLINE IN AMERICA.—The Episcopal and the Catholic Churches have both had to exercise ecclesiastical authority in America. The Episcopal Court has decreed suspension against the Rev. Dr. Cheney, a rector in Chicago, for omitting the word "regenerate" from the baptismal service, the suspension being until such time as the heretic shows contrition and a willingness to reform in the future. In the other case Archbishop M'Closkey has notified Father Farrell, a priest in New York, that he is removed unless he shall retract a letter written by him expressing regret that he could not attend a meeting favourable to Italian unity, and avowing gratification that foreign soldiers had been driven out of Rome. It is plain that the notion that sincerity is a less necessary qualification for the pulpit than orthodoxy is not limited to the Judicial Committee of our own Privy Council, which recently expressed its willingness to retain Mr. Voysey provided he would contradict his well-known opinions.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

SIGNS OF REACTION AGAINST COMPREHENSION.—The *Inquirer*, which has so often shown a leaning to a scheme of comprehension which might embrace the Unitarian denomination, of which it is the organ, speaks of the Rev. Mr. Maclagan's paper recently read at Sion College "as significant of the attitude of the High-Church party—the party which is becoming dominant in the Church of England. Such an attitude renders the hope of comprehension well-nigh impossible; it indicates the approaching separation of Church and State as the only possible solution of some of our ecclesiastical problems; as much desired by High Churchmen as by zealous members of the Liberation Society. It shows forcibly how hollow and visionary are schemes of union where there is so wide a diversity in theology and in the whole system of Church life. The Established Church, we are convinced, will fall to pieces through the forces of internal disruption, while a few of its more enlightened minds are still indulging in their beautiful visions of 'comprehension' and universal peace and harmony."

REVISION OF THE AUTHORISED VERSION.—The revisers of the New Testament concluded their seventh group of sessions on Friday. The Bishop of Salisbury presided the first day, the Bishop of Gloucester the second and part of the third, and the Prolocutor, the Venerable Archdeacon Bickersteth, during the remainder of the time. The company met in the library of the Deanery, Westminster. Considerable progress was made in the work, especially during the third and fourth days, and the greatest harmony and earnestness marked the whole proceedings. The revisers of the Old Testament met concurrently with the other company in the "Jerusalem Chamber," under the presidency of the Bishops of St. David's and Ely, and brought their fourth session to a close on Friday, after a fortnight's continuous work. The four bishops connected with the company have taken a prominent part in the proceedings, the attendance of other members has been good, and the rate of progress, which has been, on an average, about a chapter and a half per diem, gives good ground for hoping that they will not be far behind their brethren of the New Testament Company in completing the task assigned to them. It is satisfactory to note that the harmony between the members of the company, whether of the Church of England or of other religious societies, has not been impaired by the recent discussions in Convocation.—*Times.*

Religious and Denominational News

Father Gavazzi has arrived in Rome, and preached a first sermon from Rom. i. 16: "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ," &c.

The Rev. T. Baker, B.A., late of Ramsey, Hunts, who has been supplying the Baptist Church, Over Darwen, Lancashire, during the winter months, has accepted a very cordial invitation to the pastorate.

We regret to announce the death of the Rev. C. J. Middleditch, who was for many years secretary of the Baptist Irish Society. Some time since the rev. gentleman retired from that position, which he filled with much acceptance, and settled at Blockley, in Worcestershire, at which place he died on Friday last.

WARRINGTON.—The Rev. J. T. Malyon, of Stockton-on-Teesdale, has, much to the regret of his people, resigned the pastorate of the Baptist church in that town, in consequence of a change of views upon the question of Baptism. Mr. Malyon will be glad to supply any Congregational church.—*From a Correspondent.*

AN AMERICAN MISSION SHIP.—The new missionary ship, Morning Star, was launched at East Boston on the 25th of January, and was expected to be ready to sail for Honolulu about the middle of February. This is the third Morning Star which has been built under the auspices of the American Board. The first was launched in 1856, but became unseaworthy after nine years' service among the islands of the Pacific. The second was wrecked last year.

PRAYER-MEETINGS IN YORK.—Prayer-meetings being held after the evening service in the churches of York, it is said that among the places to which it was proposed that the congregation should be invited to retire for united prayer was a Methodist chapel conveniently near, and when the Archbishop was informed by some straightlaced Churchman in the tone of objection that it was a Methodist chapel, his Grace replied: "So much the better; I shall prefer it on that account."—*Weekly Review.*

LINDFIELD.—The Rev. W. J. B. Roome, of Lindfield, Sussex, having accepted a hearty and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Church, Great Marlow, a farewell meeting was held on Wednesday evening, D. Dratt, Esq., presiding. After various expressions of kind feeling and best wishes, S. Durrant, Esq., on behalf of the church and congregation, and also as expressive of the sympathy of many friends in the county, presented Mr. Roome with a purse of 40*l.*, which has since been increased to 55*l.*

HACKNEY.—At the meeting last week of the church worshipping in the Old Gravel Pit Chapel, the Rev. Dr. Spence announced that, owing to his continued feeble health and by the decided advice of his physicians, he must shortly retire from the pastoral office. This step is urged upon him for his own sake, in the hope of prolonging his usefulness in some other department of Christian service than preaching. His retirement will be a great trial both to himself and his people, especially just as the new and spacious chapel erected in Clapton Park for the church and congregation is almost ready to be opened, and erected with the hope of his continued ministry.

MISSIONARY ORDINATION.—At Enfield, on Thursday, March 2, Mr. E. H. Stribling was set apart to the work of a missionary in Madagascar, in connection with the London Missionary Society. The introductory service was conducted by the Rev. S. J. Smith, B.A.; the Rev. R. Toy, of Madagascar, described the field of labour; the Rev. J. Stribling, father of the young missionary, proposed the usual questions, which were answered in a clear and satisfactory manner. The Rev. Dr. Wardlaw offered the ordination prayer; the Rev. Dr. Simon, of Springhill College, delivered the charge; and the Rev. H. S. Toms concluded with prayer. There were present, besides the ministers who took part in the service, the Revs. J. Mark, of Winchmore; T. Toy, of Meare; G. White (Baptist); and several ministerial students. Zion Chapel proving too small for the congregation, the service was held, through the kindness of the Rev. H. S. Toms, in the larger chapel in the immediate neighbourhood.

WYCLIFFE CHAPEL.—Since the beginning of last October, popular lectures have been given in this chapel every Monday evening. With the exception of five lectures only, the Rev. R. Thomas (pastor of Wycliffe) has taken upon himself this burden, in addition to the heavy work of a London pastorate. On almost every occasion the large chapel has been crowded. The subjects on which Mr. Thomas has lectured have been chiefly social and literary. On Monday evening last, a handsome gold watch and chain was presented to the reverend gentleman, and those who were present will not soon forget the hearty enthusiasm with which he was greeted. Mr. O'Neill, who was deputed to present the offering, said that it represented not only the rich man's sovereign, but most emphatically the poor man's penny. The Revs. J. Cohen (rector of Whitechapel), J. A. Picton, of Hackney, A. A. Ramsay, J. De Kewer Williams, and J. Knaggs, of Stratford, have kindly assisted the pastor of Wycliffe Chapel in this meritorious enterprise.

PRESBYTERIAN FIVE DAYS' MISSION IN LONDON.—The Presbyterian churches of the metropolis have been holding a series of meetings in five of their principal churches, with a view to influence the non-churchgoing population, which were thoroughly made public beforehand. The first of these mission meetings was held at Regent-square Church, the scene of the ministry of Edward Irving, and latterly of the late Dr. Hamilton, on Monday, Feb. 20. Though there was a large attendance, the congregation appeared to be composed of ordinary churchgoers. Several addresses were delivered, and the Rev. J. Oswald Dykes, the minister of the church, presided. The following evening the meeting in the same chapel was not so well attended, but the poorer classes were better represented. The same evening the services of the Marylebone Church began. The Rev. Donald Fraser is the minister of this church. The attendance was generally good—the body of the church was filled, and the gallery partly so—half of those assembled being strangers, many of whom were evidently of the poorest class. After the minister had opened the proceedings, the Revs. A. J. Murray and Dr. A. P. Stewart delivered plain and earnest addresses. Mr. Fraser brought the meeting to a close. An assembly for prayer and inquiry was held afterwards, when about half of those present remained, while others came in. On the following night the Rev. J. O. Dykes, M.A., Professor Lorimer, and Mr. Lockhart Gordon spoke. The numbers present were greatly in excess of those of the previous evening, and many remained for the prayer-meeting. The services at Islington Church (Rev. J. T. Davidson's) were commenced at seven o'clock on the 20th by a special prayer-meeting of half-an-hour's length, which was continued throughout the week. Henry Grattan Guinness was among the speakers. It appears that at Belgrave Church the attendance upon the services was large—on one evening, indeed, there was not even standing room, and the appearance of those present showed unmistakably that they were the very class for whom the meetings were intended. The ministers and others who gave the addresses and exhortations stood on the platform in front of the pulpit. At Stepney, the church of John Knox, so called, the services were well attended, and the Rev. A. G. Brown, of Stepney Tabernacle, was among the speakers. Similar meetings are likely to be held by the same body in Liverpool and elsewhere.

PROGRESS IN MADAGASCAR.—Some little controversy has recently arisen respecting the internal condition of Madagascar. Several missionaries of the different societies labouring the island have described in strong terms the extreme ignorance of the multitudes that crowd the village chapels; the vicious practices enjoined and indulged in by certain false teachers; and the pressure brought to bear upon the country people by a few local governors or judges, who command them to come to the praying because the Queen has adopted the new religion. There is, without doubt, considerable truth in these representations. But we do not now hear them for the first time. No one set them forth more plainly than Mr. Jukes in the journal which the directors published last July. The pleasant and the discouraging sides of the position in Madagascar were faithfully pourtrayed; and it was shown that the teaching and presence of English missionaries among the scattered congregations would prove the only complete cure of these formidable evils. The Central Government of Madagascar repudiates, in earnest terms, all desire to bring the people over to Christianity by official orders. If individual officers, especially at a distance from the capital, have commanded or compelled the people to enter the churches, they have done so without orders from the Court, and without the knowledge of the Minister to whom they are responsible. And our missionary brethren have been too well trained in the most effective modes of drawing men's hearts to the Saviour, and too well instructed in the spiritual character of the Kingdom of Christ, to desire such things, or to pass them by unreproved. Notwithstanding all drawbacks, the testimony given by the missionary brethren is very decided that true progress is being secured, and that "the number of the disciples" is increasing daily.—*Chronicle of the London Missionary Society.* We learn on the same authority that at a Congregational Union on the 14th December, the Prime Minister was present, and spoke briefly in regard to education. "We were all very much pleased with what he said, and with the way in which he addressed the people. He told

them that he had come not as the Prime Minister, but as a deputation from the *Church in the Palace*, to consult with them as to the best means of promoting education, and of spreading the kingdom of Jesus Christ. He told them that neither the Queen nor the Church in the Palace had any desire to rule or command the people in respect to religion, and if anyone said they said so, he was a liar. His speech is quite sufficient to put a stop to all reports respecting Government interference and a State-Church in Madagascar. The assembly met in the Church at Amparibe. Before eight o'clock the building was crowded with upwards of 2,000 representatives from the town and country congregations."

Butchers' Festival at the Metropolitan Tabernacle.—We learn from the *Freeman* that on Tuesday last some 2,000 of the journeymen butchers of the metropolis, with their wives, took tea together in the capacious lecture and schoolrooms of the Tabernacle, on the occasion of their annual festival. This celebration was originated, and has since been carried on, by Mr. Henry Varley, late a master butcher of good position in Notting-hill, and an earnest evangelist. Mr. Varley has ever felt the deepest interest in the meat salesmen of Newgate-market, with whom he was so frequently brought into contact. He has evangelised among them, and his pleasant appearance, hearty manner, and earnest endeavours for their higher welfare, have made his name popular and respected. We believe Mr. Varley is no longer a butcher, having disposed of his business and entered the ministry. He, however, still retains his old interest in the men with whom he had business and other relations, and the reception which was accorded him by the large assembly which crowded the area and the first gallery of the Tabernacle is sufficient proof of the esteem in which he is held. At seven o'clock Mr. Spurgeon and Mr. Varley ascended the platform amid great demonstrations of approval. Order restored, the proceedings began by singing the hymn, "Not all the blood of beasts on Jewish altars slain," &c., which was vigorously sung. Then Mr. Spurgeon engaged in prayer, and afterwards explained that Mr. S. Morley, M.P., had been expected to preside, but other engagements prevented him. He, as minister of the place, had been requested to undertake that office, and he gladly did so. Mr. Varley then addressed the assembly. He stated that this was the sixth festival of the butchers. The first meeting consisted of only about fifty or sixty men; the second grew to 250; and the third, in consequence of the good report that was given by those who had attended the previous gathering, numbered 500. To-night their numbers were so large that the Notting-hill Tabernacle would have been wholly insufficient to accommodate them; only one chapel in London would meet their wants, and they were thankful to Mr. Spurgeon for so willingly granting them the use of this magnificent building. Then followed an address of the utmost plainness, in which the vices of the persons addressed were unsparingly denounced. He urged them affectionately to give up the habit of swearing. He was glad that after leaving previous meetings, many had vowed they would put a restraint upon themselves in relation to this foolish and gratuitous sin, and he hoped that similar resolutions would be made that evening. He entreated them to be honest and upright in all their dealings, and to avoid the use of intoxicating drinks. He had been a total abstainer for twenty years, and had not been the worse for his abstinence,—a remark which elicited universal plaudits. Mr. Spurgeon then addressed the meeting from the words, "There is forgiveness with Thee that Thou mayst be feared," and thus concluded:—"On Sunday, you know, the commandment is, 'You shall not be happy.' It would be a great wrong if a preacher made you smile. I don't believe it. I make people laugh on Sunday. I believe that the risible faculty has as much good as the faculty which makes us cry. I don't think it wrong to make people laugh on Sunday. There are more flies caught by honey than by vinegar." The Rev. J. T. Davidson (Presbyterian) also delivered an address.

A Poor Man's Church.—Not many congregations connected with what used to be designated "The Poor Man's Church" can, we should imagine, lay so genuine a claim to that title as the one over the Thames, the report for which now lies before us. In the printed record of 1870, the pastor of the Borough-road Congregational Church (the Rev. G. M. Murphy) says:—"It may be interesting to state that since the formation of the church in December, 1866, 490 members have been admitted, of whom 160 have died, been transferred, emigrated, or been lost to us in various ways. Of the 330 remaining, 212 are women, 126 married, 50 unmarried, and 36 widows; of the two former classes, 74 are wives, 14 are daughters of members. Of the 118 men, 19 are labourers, 7 porters, 6 carmen, 6 smiths, 3 carpenters, 4 excavators, 3 brass-finishers, 3 boot and shoemakers, 3 clerks, 2 builders' foremen, 2 engineers, 2 carvers, 2 fitters, 2 painters, 2 plasterers, 2 printers, 2 machinists, 2 ostlers, 2 messengers, 2 stationers' assistants, 2 warehousemen; the rest are one accountant, an asylum-keeper, an artificial florist, a bookseller's assistant, a bargeman, a brushmaker, a chairmaker, a cooper, a costermonger, a compositor, an engine-driver, an envelope machine maker, an engraver, a foreman painter, a foreman of labourers, a French polisher, a gasman, a gateman, a hatter, an indiarubber worker, an iron-plate worker, a lithographer, a lacemaker, a mangle-maker, a mason, a musical instrument maker, an oilman, a railway porter, a railway signalman, a ropemaker, a sawyer, a saw-mill manager, a scalemaker, a traveller, a timber-merchant, a waiter, and a watchman, beside the pastor. This has a genuine stamp, but there is much we fear among churches which specially claim the sympathies of the poor that will not bear strict investigation, though they may receive no small sum from the benevolent public. We know two Episcopalian churches, both in densely crowded districts, not far from each other, in the parishes belonging to which huge printed posters are displayed, inviting the working people to choose sittings, or whole seats, gratuitously, and they will be apportioned to them on application; the one also has a staring invitation to lay helpers, from the superintendent of a Sunday-school downwards, to choose in what department they would like to work, any idea of fitness for the post, or proofs of personal godliness, apparently not being required. The converts, attendants, and lay helpers, however, do not come. But the report from which we have already quoted, proves that there is no difficulty in getting lay helpers for carrying on church work if the people are first interested in the Saviour, for in an epitome it is stated that the Sunday-school has 300 names upon the books, with an average attendance of 230. The Tract Society has almost every house in the vicinity of the church under Christian visitation. The Evangelical Association has some of the most eligible spots in South London well occupied in the summer months in open-air preaching and tract distribution. The Dorcas Society aided fifty-five poor mothers during the past year in their hour of need. Two Bands of Hope, and an adult Temperance Society, are doing efficient service against the bitter curse of drunkenness. A well-conducted Savings Bank is teaching habits of thrift to the poor around. Over 134*l.* was deposited temporarily during the past year. Several members of the church are engaged in the Ragged Schools of the neighbourhood, and assist in the labours of the Surrey Chapel Christian Instruction Society in the lodging-houses in the Mint and Kent-street. The Officer of Literature distributed some 5,000 periodicals during last year. At the Lambeth Baths, New Cut, also, meetings of a religious, moral, social, entertaining, and instructive character are held nightly all the winter; the attendance is chiefly men. These meetings are held under the superintendence of the pastor of the church, who is kindly assisted by Christian brethren and friends. We also gather that liberal pecuniary help has been afforded, especially toward the latter effort, by one who need not be mentioned, and that some of the suburban churches who have few, if any, poor in their neighbourhood, have permitted collections to be made on behalf of the missionary work of the church. This is as it should be, the strong supporting the weak; and if church organisations are to be sustained at all amid the masses of the poor in the interior of our large cities and towns. At the same time, it ought not to be regarded as other than almost a spiritual calamity that different sections or classes of society should meet together in the House of God well-nigh exclusively. It is neither good for the rich or the poor, the mechanic or the merchant, to worship alone. How it is to be avoided may be a problem; but, if it be possible to break down this among other middle walls of partition, it will throw light upon many things that now seem to loom darkly upon the ecclesiastical horizon.

Correspondence.

THE TABLE OF LESSONS (ESTABLISHED CHURCH) BILL.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Dear Sir,—The bill above named is again brought into the House of Lords. The deference shown by the Ministers to their episcopal and clerical opponents makes it probable that the obnoxious recital in the preamble of the similar bill of last year will again be found in this year's measure. I refer to the recital of the assent and approval of Convocation having been given to the proposed change in the Scripture lessons read in the churches of the Establishment. This would be an implied admission on the part of Parliament that the consent of Convocation to the proposed change is necessary, or at any rate it may be interpreted to be such an admission. The consent of Convocation to any ecclesiastical legislation once admitted to be necessary, its extension to all such legislation would be easy. This would increase the difficulty, already great enough, of passing measures for remedying Dissenters' grievances, or for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Episcopal Church. This being so, Dissenters are justified in watching, or rather, they are required jealously to watch the progress of a Bill, the object of which does not specially concern them. We do not want the progress of measures directly affecting us to be hampered by the necessity of consent on the part of a body capable of such—to use a memorable phrase—*saponaceous lubricity*, as Convocation showed on a late occasion.

Let me therefore urge Dissenters to use their influence with members of Parliament to induce them to support in the House of Commons the amendment which will no doubt be, as last year, proposed, viz., to omit the obnoxious words in question.

Yours faithfully,

March 5, 1871. E. C. W.

THE VOYSEY CASE AND THE BROAD CHURCH.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—The Voysey case presses very hard upon the Broad-Church party; the *Spectator* has said that it makes the position of such men as Mr. Maurice untenable. If such be the opinion of the Broad Church *Spectator* in reference to Mr. Maurice, what ought to be the effect of the "judgment" upon those clergymen about whom Mr. Voysey says, "hundreds of clergymen are with me upon these questions"? If Mr. Voysey's very honest exposition of these extreme Broad-Church views has resulted in his expulsion from the Church, surely men who hold those views and are yet afraid to avow them openly, are *now* not only heretics, but cowards. I am sorry to have to use such a word, but it is the only word I can find to express the character of men who hold what they *now* know to be an error severely condemned by their own Church, and are yet culpably silent upon it.

It may be urged that it is not their duty to set the law upon themselves. Perhaps, as one of Mr. Voysey's friends said to me, "If Voysey is turned out we ought all to go." Possibly these gentlemen are waiting for some one to take the lead. If anything is likely to weaken the hold that the Church has upon the educated portion of the people, this playing with conscience will do it.

I hope those supporters of the State-Church who are amongst us, yet not with us, will carefully ponder the probable results which must follow such conduct, on the part of men who are supposed to possess, not only the advantages of a liberal education, but the greater advantage of a kind of semi-inspiration, the correlative of their Apostolic descent.

If the "unauthorised brethren" of the Free Churches did these things, no one need feel any surprise. I do, however, confess to some astonishment that, while these gentlemen are supposed to be vitally and mystically endowed with sacramental powers and *quasi* apostolical authority, their *morals* are on a level with ordinary mortals, if, indeed, they be not a little below them.

It is generally thought that, had Lord Westbury been Chancellor, this very unfortunate condition of things might have been avoided! Perhaps the honest deliverance of Lord Hatherley's may be catching. I trust it may. A little more honesty among the bishops would not make that virtue a drug, even in the Upper House of Convocation.

If the House of Commons won't disestablish the State-Church, I would humbly suggest to that assembly that it should impartially and somewhat severely *enforce* the laws of the Church upon its servants. A dishonourable laxity of discipline is the only condition under which the Established Church can hold together.

I am, &c.,

NONCONFORMIST.

Warrington.

EXCLUSION OF MUSIC FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—The new Revised Code now awaiting the approval of Parliament, excludes drawing and music from the list of "extra subjects" for which additional grants are given by the Committee of Council. Drawing has never been included in this list. Music has been admitted for about two years and a half. I cannot speak of what other musical propagandists may have done, but I know that during the year and a half in which the Tonic Sol-fa method has been accepted, my friends have not been idle. We had to raise funds in our classes throughout the country, and to send to more than 10,000 aided schools books of instruction and other papers, which, with the help of a blackboard, have enabled many teachers to begin their work. This had been a long undertaking, and our last circulars of this kind were not sent out till the middle of December. We cannot know yet how far these efforts have been fruitful, but we know that already several masters have obtained the grant for music on the Tonic Sol-fa method, and one of them has obtained two such grants. The enclosed extracts from our correspondence will show how music is appreciated in schools, both as a recreation and as a moral power. The secretary of our Tonic Solfa College has, for several months past, been in daily communication with the teachers, wishing to introduce our method. Until we were allowed to take the matter up we could not hear of more than one school (though there may have been several others) who had obtained the grant for music, but this is not a question of one method or the other. Music of any kind, or on any system, will cease to be taught in the schools directly the Government discourages it. I am old enough to remember the time when there was no Revised Code, and when the powers of the teacher were not strained and exhausted to meet the inspector's requirements, and I have to say that at that time there was very much more music in schools than there is now. It is plain, therefore, that the withdrawal of the grant is a practical exclusion of music. Mr. G. A. Macfarren seizes the true point of educational importance in this matter. He writes to me:—"When a child has been taught the alphabet, and the numeration tables, all literature and all figures are open to him, so that with ordinary intelligence and a wish to learn he may, without a master, attain the highest ends of knowledge. With drawing, on the contrary, and still more with music, it is impossible to explain in words the very first elements, and the best precepts would be futile without example. I am thoroughly convinced that the education of the eye and the ear is above all value

in opening our intellect and refining our character, and that its neglect is therefore a serious moral evil."

I believe, Sir, the real difficulty lies in this fact, that probably not more than one-tenth of the inspectors know how to examine in music on any system whatever. But must the country wait for them to learn? Certainly not. It is quite easy to extend to schools that system of ear exercises which has for some years been introduced into the Christmas examinations at the training colleges, the examinations of the Society of Arts, and in the local examination of the universities, the only difference being that the exercises must be more graduated and better adapted for their purpose. The inspector would have only to see the exercises done, in the course of ten or fifteen minutes, and to send them to London for correction. A great advantage of this plan would be that the examinations would be uniform throughout the country.

I am, Sir, yours,
JOHN CURWEN.

Plaistow, March 6, 1871.

THE MOTION ON DISESTABLISHMENT.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—May I ask your kind permission to suggest to your numerous readers, who are looking forward with no common interest to the introduction of the proposed motion in the House of Commons relative to Church Establishments, the desirableness of their making this matter the subject of earnest prayer to God, that He may be pleased to vouchsafe to the honourable mover and all concerned therein needful wisdom, courage, guidance, and aid in this important duty, and that its issues may tend to the furtherance of the Gospel in the world through the removal of all those obstructions to its progress which arise out of the incongruous and unholy alliance to which the intended motion distinctly refers.

Yours most respectfully,
W. HAWKES.

Moseley, Feb. 25, 1871.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday, in reply to Lord Lyveden, the Duke of ARGYLL said he agreed with him that the House of Commons in no respect represented the taxpayers of India exclusively. The Pauper Inmates' Discharge and Regulation Bill was passed through committee. The House adjourned at six o'clock.

THE NEW LECTIONARY BILL.

On Friday Earl STANHOPE asked whether Her Majesty's Government intended to propose in that House a measure to establish a new table of lessons in the Church services; and whether that measure would comprise also other points recommended by the late Ritual Commission. The noble lord expressed his regret at the withdrawal of the bill last session, because he felt sure that it might easily have been carried through the House of Commons, and because its abandonment had caused great disappointment to many of the clergy, besides occasioning serious inconvenience, and even pecuniary loss, to the printers of Prayer-books. But in addition to the new lectionary, a great many other improvements had been recommended by the Ritual Commissioners with a view to give greater elasticity to the Church services, and better to adapt them to the varying circumstances of particular parishes. Those alterations would, he believed, meet with little opposition in either House, and would give general satisfaction. There were other provisions suggested by the Commissioners which would, no doubt, lead to more controversy, but which were of great importance. Amongst them were those relating to the Athanasian Creed. Four times had he (the noble earl) attempted in the Commission to secure the object which he thought most desirable—namely, to retain that creed in the Prayer-book, but to discontinue its public recitation. A great number of the commissioners concurred in his view, but unfortunately they could never agree upon any one resolution, and they had therefore merely proposed the addition of an explanatory note.

The LORD CHANCELLOR entirely concurred with the noble earl as to the expediency of reintroducing the bill, and he begged at once to lay it upon the table. At the same time he must confess that he did feel it equally desirable to enlarge the measure by introducing clauses effecting other alterations, some of which had undoubtedly been recommended with a near approach to, if not with complete, unanimity. On the present occasion he hoped that the bill would not encounter the opposition threatened last year, or that if it did there would be ample time for its discussion. As regarded other recommendations of the commissioners, he foresaw that if any of them were introduced it would be necessary to face other questions—that of the Athanasian Creed, for instance—and Her Majesty's Government did not feel it would be right to undertake, on their own responsibility, matters respecting which there was likely to be so little unanimity. (Cheers.) Lord Hatherley concluded by moving that the bill be read a first time.

Lord PORTMAN regretted that the noble and learned lord had not promised a measure for the establishment of a tribunal for the cheap and expeditious settlement of questions of ecclesiastical law.

The Earl of HARROWBY was of opinion that something must be done to settle the questions which had been raised; otherwise, just as some clergymen had already adopted the new Lectionary, conceiving that the sanction of Convocation was a sufficient authority for such a step, so others would introduce alterations on the strength of the Commissioners' report, and thus the present confusion would be increased. As to the Athanasian Creed, there was a uniform feeling in favour of the course suggested by the noble earl—the rather as the Church of England was the only Church in the world in which the creed in question was recited in the public services.

Lord EBURY said that it would be a poor compliment to the Commissioners if, after the great trouble they had taken, only one comparatively insignificant proposal were adopted.

The bill was then read a first time.

Their Lordships rose at twenty minutes before six.

OUR FOREIGN GUARANTEES.

On Monday the Marquis of SALISBURY called attention to the extent of our foreign guarantees, and to the deficiency of our military forces. Reminding their Lordships that we had guaranteed the independence of Portugal, Belgium, Switzerland, Greece, Turkey, and Sweden, he maintained that, practically, the frontiers of the guaranteed countries became our own, and therefore we could not rely entirely upon our navy, or upon the "little streak of silver sea"; but must either maintain a military force which would be adequate to enable us to fulfil our obligations, or must modify or abandon them. All foreign Governments were acquainted with the weakness of our military system, and hence arose the impotence of our words in the councils of Europe; and it was absolutely necessary that the Government should either abandon a system of "permanent braggadocio," or adapt their military forces to their promises.

Earl GRANVILLE characterised the speech of the noble marquis as so full of exaggerations as to render it useless for any national object. Fastening upon a quotation which he had made from the non-official part of the *Versailles Moniteur*, to show that England has now no influence in Europe, he informed their Lordships that the German Foreign Minister had expressed his regret that such a statement should have appeared, and maintained that the fact of the Conference upon the Black Sea question being sitting in London, and the appeals which had been addressed to us by both belligerents during the war, showed that they did not think we were so feeble or helpless as the noble lord asserted. The noble earl entirely declined to lay down any general principles as to our obligations under the guarantees which we have given, but utterly denied that we were unable to fulfil them; and, while congratulating himself and the Government upon having kept the country out of war during the past year, repudiated any intention to adopt a system of braggadocio, either permanent or temporary.

The Earl of MALMESBURY agreed with Lord Salisbury that we were not prepared to fulfil our engagements; and at the same time called their Lordships' attention to the fact that public morality in Europe had sunk to so low an ebb that might was rapidly becoming right. Lord LAUDERDALE expressed his doubts as to the efficiency of our navy; and when Lord GREY had expressed his dissatisfaction with the answer of the Foreign Secretary, Lord Salisbury's motion for the reprinting of the guarantees, to which Lord Granville had made no objection, was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BURIALS BILL.

Mr. O. MORGAN, in moving the second reading of this bill on Wednesday, recapitulated the history of the measure for the same purpose which he introduced last session, and which was then referred to a select committee—an ordeal from which it emerged, he said, a better bill than it was before, having at least assumed the form of a compromise. His bill came back last year from the committee in May; it was down on the order-book thirteen times; it was actually reached three times; the House divided on it five times, but with all that labour they only got through six lines and a half of the measure. (A laugh.) Though called at the comparatively early hour of eleven on one evening, an hon. member, whose liveliness increased as the night advanced, moved to report progress three or four different times. Such tactics, though they might retard, could never ultimately prevent the passing of a just measure, neither did they redound greatly to the credit of those who resorted to them. He was glad, therefore, that this year the hon. and gallant member for West Sussex (Colonel Barttelot), with a courage more in unison with his professional antecedents, was to meet the bill with a direct negative instead of by the slow and ignoble process of the effluxion of time. ("Hear," and a laugh.) The hon. and learned member then proceeded to show that the state of the law which he sought to alter involved a grievance demanding a remedy. By the common law of England, every parishioner, whatever his religious opinions, was entitled to interment in the parish churchyard; but then the canon law stepped in and prohibited the use of any religious service at such interment in three cases—namely, that of a suicide, that of an excommunicated person, and that of an unbaptized person, whether the omission of the rite of baptism had arisen from accident, as through the sudden death of an infant, or from the conscientious scruples of the person himself or of his friends, or from any other cause. If the rite of baptism had been performed, whether by a clergyman of the Established Church, by a Dissenting minister, or by a layman, or even by a woman, the clergyman of the parish was compelled to read over the body of the deceased, whatever might have been his antecedents, his mode of life, his religious opinions, or the wishes of his surviving friends, a funeral service eminently beautiful, but in many cases inapplicable and unsuitable. Again, if a Dissenter died in a rural parish the minister who had instructed him in life, soothed his dying moments, and, it might be, consoled his sorrowing relatives, was stopped at the churchyard and not allowed to enter except in the capacity of a private mourner. One might think that every humane man, whatever his own tenets, would be only too anxious that poor people in those supremely trying circumstances should have the benefit of such religious consolation as really went home to their hearts, and not be expected to submit to a service which, however excellent in itself, became a hollow mockery when addressed to unwilling ears. The scenes to which that state of the law had led were disgraceful not only to any Christian, but to any civilised country. Last year he had referred to a number of instances in which scandals of that kind had occurred. There were many cases of hardship and indignity inflicted on Dissenters under the existing law, but few worse than the one in which a clergyman who, finding at the commencement of a funeral ceremony than one coffin contained the bodies of two infants, one of which had and the other had not been baptized, caused the coffin to be opened and the unbaptized child removed from it before he would proceed with the service. Last year, when he stated these cases, he gave the fullest particulars in order that his statements might be tested; but, though a perfect torrent of ecclesiastical invective had been poured out upon his head, no attempt had been made to disprove the narrative of facts he laid before the House. In Ireland, where such a provision was not nearly so necessary as in England, a law analogous to that which he chose to see enacted was in force, and he wanted to see the law equalised in the whole of the three kingdoms. In Wales particularly the present law weighed very heavily, because not only were the majority of the people Dissenters, but they lived in rural parishes, where they had not the advantage of cemeteries containing ground both consecrated and unconsecrated. The bill by which he proposed to remedy this was in many respects similar to the one of last year, the points of dissimilarity occurring in places where points had been conceded to the opponents of the measure introduced last session. Last year it was objected that under the bill, not only would orthodox Dissenters have a right to be buried in parish churchyards, but Comtists, Spiritualists, Materialists, Shakers, Jumpers, and Mormons would possess the same right with members of the Church of England. However that might have been at the time, it was not so under the present bill, which expressly provided that no person should officiate at any burial under the Act who was not a minister or member of some religious body having a registered place for public worship; that all burials under the Act should be conducted in a decent and solemn manner; and that all services under the Act should be religious services. Any person guilty of riotous conduct or indecent behaviour thereat to be guilty of a misdemeanour. (Hear, hear.) The 7th clause provided that for every burial under the Act the same fees should be paid to the incumbent as though the office of the Church of England had been used. The 9th clause proposed to enact that graveyards wholly or in part consecrated might be provided by private benefaction; and the 12th clause contained such exceptions in regard to places in which there should be burials under the Act as ought to satisfy the most bitter opponents of last year's bill. The first argument against the bill was based on the theory that the churchyard was the freehold of the parson, and that to pass the measure would be to interfere with vested interest. It was true that the law requiring the fee simple of all property in England to vest in somebody vested the freehold of the churchyards in the parsons as trustees for the whole body of their parishioners, and not for their own benefit alone. (Hear, hear.) The future prospect of the Church of England was not involved in the present bill, and he therefore objected to such criticisms as that his proposal was meant to be the thin end of the wedge with a view to the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church. Let questions so wide apart be considered separately, instead of adopting the unsatisfactory principle of attempting to meet one issue by raising another. (Hear.) The bill had been and would continue to be opposed. He should have felt surprised if the contrary had been the case, knowing, as he did, how completely some men's minds were blinded by theological differences to the commonest instincts of justice and right. ("Hear, hear," and murmurs.) But believing that his bill, though not, perhaps, perfect, was an honest attempt to settle a vexed question on an equitable basis, he hoped the House would pass the second reading, and allow it to be considered in committee.

Colonel BARTTELOT moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months, and suggested that the question might be settled by compromise. Let Dissenters be decently buried in graveyards of the Established Church, but let the religious service have been first conducted according to the views of the body to which the deceased belonged and in their own place of worship. If this were done,

there would be no cause for the disturbances in churchyards which would inevitably attend the working of the present bill. (Hear, hear.) He understood that the hon. member for Salford (Mr. Cawley) was about to bring in a bill to amend the Burial Laws by providing for the opening of many additional graveyards in rural localities, where they were much needed (there being no real grievance in the towns), and he thought such a bill would remedy any difficulties having an actual and tangible existence.

Mr. Stopford-Sackville said he should have rejoiced if the bill which came down from the select committee of last year had been such as he could support. It was in but few cases that any grievance was likely to arise under the existing law, because, in most instances, a burial-ground was attached to the Dissenters' chapels, and owing to the increasing number of Dissenters' burial-grounds the probability of any such grievances arising was diminishing day by day. It was only in districts where the population was sparse that a difficulty was likely to arise. The Church of England had denominational rights as well as the Nonconformists, and it would be a great blow to those rights were Dissenting ministers to be permitted to perform a service in her churchyards which was inconsistent with her doctrines. The hon. member for Salford had given notice of his intention to introduce a bill which he hoped would meet with the approval of hon. members on that side of the House. He was anxious that the clergymen of the Church of England should be relieved from the painful obligation of reading the service of the Church over the bodies of Dissenters, whose families might object to such a proceeding. If the Dissenters chose they might easily establish central cemeteries. (Hear.)

Mr. Henry Richard: I am sorry the hon. and gallant gentleman has felt it his duty to oppose the second reading of this bill. I do not for one instant call in question the perfectly conscientious motives by which he is prompted to take that course, nor have we any reason to complain of the spirit in which he has discharged what he acknowledges is a painful duty. (Hear, hear.) It appears to me that what we ask for under this measure is not a very large concession to the rights of conscience and the claims of Christian charity. And certainly after what took place during the last session of Parliament, I did hope that we might have been spared another conflict on this subject. For not only was there a full discussion conducted with much ability and in an excellent spirit on both sides, which ended in a vote in favour of the bill of two to one, but it was referred to a select committee, on which I had the honour to serve, and by which every line and almost every word was carefully considered. And when I remind the House that among those who represented the opposite side on that committee were one of the members for the University of Oxford, the hon. member for South-West Lancashire, the hon. member for Boston, and, above all, the hon. member for the University of Cambridge, himself a whole host as a defender of the faith—(laughter and cheers)—it will be readily understood that the views and the interests of the Church of England were maintained with no want either of ability or tenacity. But while those hon. gentlemen did, as everyone expected they should, hold their own earnestly and resolutely, I have pleasure in acknowledging, with my hon. and learned friend, the member for Denbighshire, that they met us in the discussion in a kind, candid, conciliatory temper, and with an honest disposition, as it seemed to me, to find a practical solution for the difficulty, and to relieve a grievance which on all hands was acknowledged to exist. (Hear, hear.) I regretted, therefore, when the bill came back to the House, to see the determination of some gentlemen opposite, though not the members of the committee, to defeat it at any cost. May I be permitted to remind the House once more that there are two classes of persons for whom we seek relief under this bill? There is one class who are absolutely denied all rights of Christian burial in the parochial churchyards. The House is aware that there is a numerous and highly respectable body of Christians in this country who do not think it right to administer baptism to infants, or to any but such as are of an age to make an intelligent profession of their personal faith. Among the names that adorn the annals of this body, there are some who are held in honour by men of all churches for their genius and piety, and their devotion to the cause of religious truth—such men as John Bunyan, and Robert Hall, and John Foster the celebrated essayist, and Drs. Carey and Marshman, who had the high distinction of translating the Sacred Scriptures into the language of some two hundred millions of the inhabitants of India. But when a child of any member of this community dies, if there is no other burial-place accessible, they have to take the body to the churchyard, where it must be laid in the ground without any religious service whatever. (Hear, hear.) There are some of the clergy themselves who feel strongly on this part of the subject. After our discussion last year, there appeared in one of the public journals a letter from the Rev. W. Carr, rector of Barning, in which he said:—"As the law stands at present, I believe the service of the Church must be read over every one who was interred in the churchyard, except over the unbaptized, or the excommunicate, or the suicide. Want of discipline, and the custom of coroner's juries, has almost removed two of these classes, and the refusal of the service has the character of a proscription, which it ought not to have. In this lies a great burden on the conscience of the clergy, a great scandal to the Church, and a grievance to the Nonconformists; and all these are made more apparent by the fact that, while you must refuse the service to an unbaptized catechumen, you must grant it to a notorious profligate. I venture to think that we ought to do all we can to remove these evils, both from our own interest, and from consideration to the Nonconformist, whom one would be grieved to harass at a time of sorrow." (Cheers.) But there is another and a much larger class for whom we plead under this measure, including all the Nonconformists of this country, of whatever name, who are forbidden to have their dead buried in the churchyards by their own ministers, and with their own form of religious service. Hon. gentlemen opposite are apt to say that this is a very small grievance. I dare say to them it is no grievance, because they do not suffer it; but those who wear the shoe must be allowed to judge where, and to what extent, it pinches. But if they were, by a little effort of the imagination, to reverse the case, and to put themselves in our position, I think they would find that it is by no means an insignificant grievance. Let them imagine that, when a near relative of theirs dies, instead of having him buried by their own clergyman, the religious instructor and adviser of them and their family, perhaps their intimate personal friend, who has been with them at every critical moment of their lives, sorrowing with them in their sorrows and sympathising in their joys; who has bent with them at the death-bed of the departed, administering to him the last consolations of religion, and afterwards mingled his tears with theirs over the coffin—instead, I say, of having the service of such a one, they were obliged to have recourse to a person who may be an entire stranger to them, or who may be a man whom they cannot respect, and towards whom they may feel strong antipathy. And let them further conceive that the service performed by this individual is not that which they love—the beautiful service appointed for the occasion in their liturgy, but something else, which, though substantially unexceptionable, is not what they are accustomed to, what they prefer, and what is most in harmony with their own religious views and feelings and tastes. I ask them, if they were compelled to submit to this, would they not feel it to be a serious grievance, from which they would come to us to ask for relief? Well, then, do unto others as ye would they should do unto you. (Cheers.) But what are the objections to this measure? The one serious objection I have heard is this, that if Nonconformist ministers were admitted to perform a funeral service in the churchyard, they would take advantage of that right to do or say something that would be offensive to the clergyman or to Churchmen generally. Well, I believe a more chimerical apprehension than that never troubled any man's brain. (Hear, hear.) Do hon. gentlemen really imagine that, when men are gathered around the grave of a deceased friend, when every mind is solemn and every heart is sad, they would seize that moment to launch forth into theological or ecclesiastical controversy, or to indulge in bitter sectarian allusions? (Hear, hear.) Why, they must think Dissenting ministers to be devoid of all decent feeling and of all common sense. (Hear, hear.) They say that sometimes now unbecoming scenes take place in churchyards. No doubt, but that arises from the existing state of the law. If scenes of agitation and excitement, little in accordance with the decorum and reverence due to the occasion, do now occur, it is because some indiscreet or over-zealous clergyman takes advantage of his position to deal a blow on the yet bleeding wounds of those already smitten by the hand of death, that the indignation of the bystanders is stirred. Let them remove such provocations as these out of the way, and I will answer for it, that funeral services will be performed with all Christian solemnity and decorum. (Cheers.) But we are sometimes told, why don't Dissenters provide cemeteries and graveyards of their own. This was put pointedly by the hon. and gallant gentlemen who moved the amendment. Why, said he, should a man who has been baptized at a chapel, and been married at a chapel, and attended religious worship at a chapel all his life, want to be buried in our churchyard? Well, in the first place, it is not your churchyard. (Cheers.) It is as much our churchyard as it is yours. (Hear, hear, hear.) On this point I can cite an authority which you yourselves will not gainsay, that of Gibson, a former Bishop of London, and an eminent writer on these questions. He says that by the ancient law of England, "the parochial churchyards, being laid out and enclosed for the common burial places of the respective parisioners, every parishioner hath, and always had, a right to be buried in them." (Cries of "Hear, hear," from the Opposition. Very well, but if every parishioner has and always had, a right to be buried in the churchyard, what entitles you to call it your churchyard? (Cheers.) But there is another reason why, very often, Dissenters may wish to be buried in the churchyard—you may call it if you please, a sentimental reason, but it is one that springs from a feeling that lies deep in our common human nature—the desire that men have to be buried with their kindred, or in the beautiful language of the oldest and best of books, to be gathered to their fathers. (Hear, hear.) There is, however, another reason why Dissenters don't have cemeteries or graveyards of their own, and that is, because they can't get them. The right hon. gentleman, the member for the University of Oxford, said last year that almost all over the country, the Dissenters had graveyards attached to their chapels. I assure the right hon. gentleman that he is mistaken. There are thousands of Nonconformist chapels which have no grave-yards, and that because it is impossible to get them. I can answer at least for that part of the country with which I am more immediately connected—the Principality of Wales. I wrote last year on this subject to a gentleman as well acquainted as any man I know with North Wales, and this was his reply:—"As to the question you asked me, I do not find that all Carnarvonshire has more than five or six burial-grounds belonging to Nonconformists. Bangor has a very good public cemetery, but I do not know of any others in the whole county. There may be four burial-grounds attached to chapels in Anglesea, some of which are filled, and there may be three public cemeteries. In Montgomeryshire I do not know of a single cemetery, and but four burial grounds attached to chapels. The other counties are much the same." Another gentleman in South Wales writes:—"In this county of Cardigan the Calvinistic Methodists have eighty-four chapels. Of that number only eighteen have places of burial of any extent, and some of those are only a little court in front of the chapel, while five of the eighteen are held under leases originally granted for terms of ninety-nine years and under. The principal reason that there are so few burial-places in this country is the difficulty to get land for the purpose that is freehold or under leases of long duration." A third correspondent says:—"The fact that so many Nonconformist chapels are without burial-places is to be accounted for in this way. Landlords, when they grant sites for chapels, will only grant just sufficient on which to erect the building; and generally in those cases when they grant a little more land, the leases are so short—fifty or sixty years—that no one, of course, would dream of using it as a burial-place." The state of the case, therefore, in Wales is this. Members of the Church of England, for such the landowners are generally—sometimes, no doubt, from the condition on which they hold their own estates, which forbid their alienating any part by sale; but in other cases, I fear, from a mere arbitrary use of the rights of property as owners of the soil—refuse to the Nonconformists a bit of God's earth in which to bury their own dead with their own rites. They are thus driven to the churchyards, and when they get there you shake your canon-law in their faces, and say to them, "You Baptists, if you bring your children to be buried here, you must be content to bury them with the burial of a dog, without one word of Christian faith and hope being uttered over their graves; and you other Nonconformists, if you are to bury your dead here, they must be buried by our minister, and with our service, and you shall not be allowed to open your own lips." Hon gentlemen opposite are the best judges of what is most wise and expedient for them to do in the interests of their own Church. But I think, if I were a member of the Church of England, I should try to promote the passing of this bill with both hands. (Hear, hear.) You must be aware that the tie which binds many millions of the people of this country to your Church is, for various reasons, very much loosened. But there is one tie which nearly all men feel more or less. The staunchest Dissenter, the most invetorate Radical, is not wholly insensible to the halo of veneration and sacredness which gathers around the old churchyard, where

> The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep,

and among others their own forefathers. But you are doing all you can to sever that tie. (Hear, hear.) Hon. gentlemen can hardly be aware how much these exclusive and invidious privileges to which they so tenaciously cling, and the scenes of scandal and outrage to which the rigid enforcement of these privileges lead, tend to alienate and embitter the minds of multitudes as regards their Church. I think, therefore, that not merely for the sake of the rights of conscience which we urge, and the claims of Christian charity which you agree with us ought to be cultivated, but for the interests of your own Church, it would be well for you to let this bill pass into law. (Cheers.)

Mr. Beresford-Hope congratulated the hon. member who had just sat down upon his having joined the most extreme Ritualists in the Church of England, inasmuch as he wore in his button-hole the badge of one of those black-letter saint's days which had moved the indignation of even so staunch a Churchman as the hon. member for East Surrey. (The hon. member wore the emblem of St. David.) ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) While admitting that the bill was as little objectionable as it could be made, he should support the amendment. This bill did nothing in the world to meet the case of the burial of an unbaptized person, but fortunately the difficulty that arose in such a case had been met by the report of the Ritual Commission, which recommended that a certain service should be performed by the clergyman over the body of an unbaptized person. It was solely due to the moderation of the clergyman of the parish that a riot did not occur recently in one of our churchyards on the occasion of Mr. Eleazer Joneses delivering in it, under the pretence of a funeral oration over a deceased Dissenter's grave, a bitter denunciation of the Church of England. If we were to have an infinite number of Eleazer Joneses discourses inside a churchyard, and almost within the church itself, then it was manifest that the passing of this bill would engender much ill-blood and ill-feeling. A clergyman of the Church of England could not utter over the grave one word which was not in the Burial Service; but in the case of a Nonconformist minister performing the burial service in a churchyard that safeguard did not exist. The hon. member opposite

(Mr. Richard) spoke of the burial service being conducted in a decent and solemn manner; and probably Mr. Eleazer Jones thought he performed the burial service in a decent manner when almost within the walls of one of our churches he delivered a speech against the Church, under the pretence of making a funeral oration. He (Mr. B. Hope) saw no safeguard in this bill against any member of the free-thinking German sects preaching an oration over the grave of one of his fellow-members in one of our churchyards. Any of those sects might register a so-called place of worship, and appoint a spokesman, and there was nothing in the bill to prevent that person from coming to any churchyard and holding a so-called religious service which would irritate not only the clergyman, but the Dissenting minister of the parish. When Hardy died one of his fellow conspirators delivered what was virtually a political oration over his grave; and, under this bill, similar orations might be delivered in any of our churchyards. The supporters of this bill invited the very grievance which they pretended to be desirous of abolishing. He was ready to go to any extent in making the acquisition of land for grounds for all kinds of people as easy, as cheap, and as general as possible. Dissenters had the power of saying the burial service in the house of the deceased, which, he believed, was usual in Scotland. They had the power of carrying the body to any place of worship, where prayers might be said and hymns sung, and such exhortations might be delivered as might comfort and cheer the survivors. But the fragment of privilege which the supporters of the bill sought for could not be granted without causing scandals much greater than those which they attempted to check.

Mr. M'CLURE said he had attended hundreds of burials of Nonconformists in Irish churchyards without hearing one word of offence against the Church. (Hear, hear.) It was an insult to the Nonconformists to insinuate that they had no sense of decorum. This was a reasonable measure, and he hoped it would be passed into law.

Mr. CROSS said if Dissenters would perform their burial service at their homes or in their own chapels he had no objection to Dissenters being buried in our churchyards. He regretted to find that they were determined, if possible, to obtain permission to celebrate their funeral service in our churchyards. If such permission were granted, he believed it would be a blow at the existence of the Church of England. He admitted that it was the right of every Dissenter to be buried in the churchyard of his parish, but subject to this condition—that he should be buried according to the rites of the Church of England. (Hear, hear.)

Sir T. LLOYD remarked that the landlords in Wales did not refuse to let Nonconformists have sites for religious purposes.

Mr. SCOURFIELD said there were practical grievances and sentimental grievances. As to the latter he did not believe it was of the slightest use to pay attention to them, because if you removed them other sentimental grievances would spring up in their place. Joseph was put into a pit: that was a practical grievance, but the displeasure which the sight of Mordecai caused to Haman was only a sentimental grievance, and he (Mr. Scourfield) believed that the grievance complained of by the supporters of this bill was sentimental rather than practical.

Mr. DALRYMPLE thought the members of the Church of England would act wisely in conceding what was asked by the supporters of the bill.

Mr. COLLINS was one of those who thought that this bill, bad as it was might be much worse. If it were made compulsory to provide burial grounds where Dissenters might be interred, the bill would hardly operate at all. In the hope that some such provisions would be introduced he would support the second reading.

Mr. M'ARTHUR referred to the good effects which had been produced in Ireland by the measure that had been introduced by the right hon. gentleman the Postmaster-General, and argued that similar happy results might be expected from passing the bill before the House. He related as an instance of the grievances which Dissenters had to complain of from time to time that a clergyman of the Established Church had refused to read the Burial Service over a Nonconformist because he had made a vow never to bury a Dissenter. The consequence was that the friends of the deceased took the body away and buried it in a Dissenting burial-ground several miles off.

After a few words from Mr. CAWLEY in opposition to the bill; Mr. BRUCE said that if Churchmen out of the House were asked whether they would make the concession which was now sought for an immense majority would be found in its favour. ("No!") Speaking with all respect of the clergymen of the Church, he did not think that on polemical questions they were the truest representatives of the feelings of its members. The principle of the bill which was really contested was this, whether under certain safeguards funeral services might be performed in the burial-grounds of the Established Church by other persons than the clergy of that Church. On a former occasion he moved that the bill be referred to a select committee, in order to surround its principle with every possible safeguard, and he must say that on both sides, the greatest efforts were made to remove every objection. It was required that ample notice should be given to the clergyman in order that different burial services might not clash, and a further security was offered that the services should be performed by ministers or members of a body whose chapel had been registered. He dismissed the notion that persons would register themselves as religious bodies for the purpose of making funeral orations over the bodies of their deceased friends. Everything, in short was done to minimise the dangers. It was not in accordance with the feelings and habits of the people of this country that irreligious or offensive discourses should be pronounced on those solemn occasions, and in that lay the great security. (Hear, hear.) But it was said that if Dissenters were admitted to the churchyard they would require to be admitted to the pulpits of the Church. The bill, however, did not propose any such thing, and it was quite unnecessary to fight with shadows when they had realities to contend with. Referring to the good which had been done in Ireland by the bill which his right hon. friend the Postmaster-General had introduced, he asked, was polemical heat or party animosity less prevalent in Ireland than in England that equally happy results might not be expected from similar legislation? It was quite as much in the interest of the Church as of religious freedom that he supported the second reading. (Hear, hear.)

Lord J. MANNERS said that gentlemen on that (the Opposition) side claimed to be the organs, not of the clergy, but of the preponderating body of the members of the Church, and therefore they opposed the second reading. He opposed the measure because he looked upon its principle as in direct antagonism to the principle of an Established Church.

Mr. S. MORLEY said he had received a letter on this subject from Archdeacon Allen, in which he said that he felt the Dissenter had a fair right of interment in the churchyard of the parish, with the services of his own denomination, but that the clergyman ought not to be called upon to perform this service. The hon. member went on to say that ulterior measures had been talked of, but he submitted to members opposite that they would be strengthened in their resistance to those measures if they did this act of justice. He suggested that it would be a gracious thing for the House to pass the second reading without a division, leaving it to be understood that, provided they left the essential principle of the bill untouched, its supporters were ready to consider any amendment that might be proposed in committee.

Earl PERCY, as one of the members of the committee to which this bill was referred last year, must say that he did not think that the securities in the bill were any security at all. If there was one thing that increased his dislike to the bill more than another, it was the way in which the hon. member who had charge of the bill evaded meeting the objection that if they allowed this power to the Nonconformists to go into the churchyard, they could not keep them out of the church. He had always understood consecrated ground to be ground set apart for the use of the Established Church. It was what was sometimes called God's acre, and he should have thought that that was the place where members of the Church of England might be separated from Nonconformists in their death as they were in their life. (Cries of "Oh!")

Mr. NEWDEGATE was not satisfied with the securities which the bill provided, and he described the measure as one which deprived the members of the Church of England of their property in the churchyards.

Mr. OSBORNE MORGAN briefly replied; after which the House divided, and the numbers were—

For the second reading	211
Against it	149—62

The announcement was received with cheers. The bill was ordered to be committed on Wednesday, the 7th of June.

The discussion of Mr. G. Gregory's bill for abolishing the Office for the Registration of Deeds, Wills, &c., in Middlesex, drew from the Attorney-General the announcement that, either in the present or early in the next session, the Government will bring in a bill to facilitate the transfer of land and provide a general registry for the whole country. The Attorney-General moved to refer the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill Repeal Act to a select committee, but owing to the lateness of the hour the debate was adjourned till to-morrow; and after disposing of some other business the House adjourned at ten minutes to six o'clock.

On Thursday Mr. BRUCE gave a qualified promise that the Licensing Bill shall be introduced before Easter.

THE REVISED CODE.

Mr. HICKS asked the Vice-President of the Council why it is made a condition in new schools that, in order to be entitled to a building grant, they should not exceed twenty feet in width; and, since it is found both inconvenient and difficult to comply with such conditions, whether he would be disposed to modify it.

Mr. FORSTER said that the condition to which the question referred had been the subject of considerable inquiry, and was the result of all the knowledge obtained by means of the inspectors and of the efforts made to find out the best kind of schools. He could not hold out any hope of modifying this rule, because building grants were coming to an end; and it was not desirable to make them wider, because they paid for the land so much per square foot; they could not undertake to give more money away, nor did they think it necessary.

In reply to Lord R. Montagu, the right hon. gentleman said that managers themselves should decide at what hour they would open their schools, and how much time they would give to religious subjects; but the Education Department would require that at each meeting of the school two hours should be given to secular instruction. With regard to pupil teachers, the Department thought that more than five hours' labour each day would be too much for boys of their age, but it was a matter for consideration how the rule would be applied in the case of half-time schools.

THE PROPOSED WESTMEATH INQUIRY.

The debate on the proposed Westmeath inquiry was resumed by Colonel WILSON PATTEN in a speech of studious moderation and conciliatory tone. He had hoped, he said, that the Government would have withdrawn their proposal, and if they had done so it would have given great satisfaction, not only in the House, but still more out of doors. Even now it was not too late to retrace their steps without compromising their dignity. The withdrawal of the resolution would enable them to appear with a united front before the world, and especially before Ireland, resolute and determined to put down crime by whatever measures might be necessary. He assured the Government that on his side of the House there would be no hesitation in entrusting them with ample powers if they claimed them on their own responsibility.

Sir R. Peel and Mr. GLADSTONE rose together, but the latter, refusing to give way, obtained the ear of the House. He thanked the last speaker for his temperance of tone and uprightness of intention, presenting so marked a contrast to the excited temper of the late Home Secretary (Mr. Hardy), who seemed to imagine that forcible language meant forcible ideas. As for the leader of the Opposition, it was something to be thankful for that what was nothing less than "foreign conquest" two years ago was now only "confiscation" and sacrilege. The Government could not withdraw from their proposal, because they deemed it politic and necessary. Neither did they admit that their Irish policy had failed. The Peace Preservation Act had enabled them to repress the outward signs of discontent, while the beneficial legislation of Parliament had gone to the hearts of the people with its healing and soothing influence, and was performing for the distant as well as the immediate future that permanent work which it was its main object to accomplish—a declaration which was received by the House with mingled cheers and laughter. It would not be in conformity with the true spirit of the constitution to demand fresh powers infringing on the liberty of the subject without an impartial inquiry into the circumstances of the case. As to the suggested suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, the Government did not think that the four murders and attempts at murder, which were the statistical facts of the case, combined especially with the great decrease of other agrarian outrages, would justify a general invasion of the private and personal liberties of the inhabitants of this portion of Ireland. Moreover, the Habeas Corpus Act had never been suspended on account of ordinary as distinguished from political crime. Allusion had been made to the precedents of a bad time, but the time was bad because Parliament was subservient and Ministers not confiding; and if under such circumstances an inquiry was conceded, it was still more natural and proper now. The theory propounded by Mr. Disraeli, that a Government which was weak in the House of Commons could not venture to put down crime or, as would logically follow, repel invasion, was simply astounding. Westmeath was not worse now than it had been before; but whereas Government had previously been compelled to wink at a great deal, the course of remedial legislation on which they had now entered rendered it imperative on them to put an end to a state of crime which was a disgrace to civilisation. He argued that even if the Government could get the same information as to the range of facts, it would be totally different in weight and authority if it were thus gathered by the Government in their secret chambers from that which had passed under the review and scrutiny of a Committee of this House. The Committee would inquire into the circumstances of the terrorism now prevalent in Westmeath, into the action of the Government, and also into the helplessness and inaction exhibited by the population. The question of secresy would remain for consideration when the committee asked for leave to close their doors.

Mr. Chaplin, Sir H. Selwyn-Ibbetson, Lord Royston, Sir G. Jenkinson, Mr. Bentinck, and Dr. Ball opposed the motion from the Conservative benches. On the Liberal side, Sir R. Peel, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Synan, Sir P. O'Brien, and Mr. Osborne also joined in condemning the proposed inquiry, which on the same side was supported only by Mr. M. Henry and Sir D. Corrigan. Sir P. O'BRIEN, who said he spoke with some knowledge of the subject, defended the Fenians from the charge of assassination. Sir D. CORRIGAN, in a peculiarly Irish speech, declared that if the Land Act had not been passed the black pall of midnight murder would have covered the country. The night would have been spent in the murder of landlords, and the day in the execution of tenants.

Sir ROBERT PEEL'S speech was marked by great pungency. He described the late Irish Secretary as speaking in a whirlwind of official passion which carried away nobody but himself, and the present Secretary as too honest to conceal his thoughts—his speech was that of an honest man who showed he was saying that which he did not quite feel to be right. He implored somebody on the Treasury Bench to get up and say, in a plain, unmistakable manner—not with a cloud of words—what the Government really meant to do in this matter, for the different utterances of Ministers contradicted each other. In fact, the policy of the Government, not only on this question, but on a great many others, exhibited a series of contradictions, of compromises, commissions, and committees that was most perplexing. Whether it was the disasters of Irish policy, or the loss of a first-class man-of-war with 800 souls on board, the Government sheltered themselves behind the responsibility of subordinates, and appointed a commission for the purpose of, as Sir G. C. Lewis said, "smothering the truth and of

obstructing investigation and true inquiry." He attributed the present motion, for which no Irish member would dare to vote, to some undercurrent or division in the Cabinet—he was sure the Irish Secretary did not suggest it.

Mr. OSBORNE made a characteristic speech against the Government. He protested that the Prime Minister's speech had thrown a thicker moral and material fog than ever over the object of the committee. It was a mere whim of Mr. Gladstone's, which evidently was not acceptable to his most stanch supporters, and its sole object was to screen Ministerial debility and executive weakness.

What is the situation? We have a strong Government, with a set of ardent supporters who were ready to vote anything the right hon. gentleman proposed. (Cheers and laughter.) His name was almost the only hustings cry they would condescend to use; and to be Gladstonian was to be successful. We now find this strong Government very much in the position of a weak woman, who when she hesitates is lost. (Laughter.) This strong Government, crammed with information as to the state of things in Westmeath, with evidence ready, and not only evidence, but measures—remedies which they do not seek at your hands, and which they are ready to pass—ask you, nevertheless for a secret and select committee. The right hon. gentleman endeavours to apologise for the times 1812 and 1818, when Lord Castlereagh, pursuing a bolder course than that of the right hon. gentleman, though probably not so confiding—(a laugh),—came down with his green bag to the House of Commons and produced his evidence. Instead of this the right hon. gentleman calls for a committee, and what is the committee to do? It is to act very much the part of a silent friend. (Laughter.) It is to produce a remedy. (Laughter.) The truth must be spoken. This committee is nothing more than a screen for Ministerial debility and Executive incapacity. (Laughter.) The First Minister is always very great upon the abstract question, and asked what are the elementary obligations of a Government, though he did not answer the question. (Laughter.) Now, what are the elementary obligations of a Government? First of all, what is the use of a Cabinet at all? Why is it selected if at the first critical moment it runs under the ægis of a select committee of the House of Commons? (Hear, hear.) This Cabinet has lately been whitewashed, it has been reconstructed, the cards have been reshuffled, and the Cabinet comes back to the old military position of "as you were." (Laughter.) Let us look at the principle of selection exercised in the choice of this Cabinet—a principle which it is proposed to extend to the military commands. How successful it has been in this instance! We all know the right hon. gentleman is rather exclusive in his Cabinet society. (Laughter.) If he has a preference, what he does like best, I believe, is a selection chiefly of Whig marionettes of the most approved pattern—gentlemen who will recognise and reverence the official wires. (Laughter.) How far does his Cabinet represent the opinions of the great Liberal majority in this House? (Hear.) How far does it represent or reconcile the feelings of the people of Ireland? (Hear, hear.) Just look down the list. Here are fifteen gentlemen. There have been several turns of this political kaleidoscope, but somehow I have remarked that at every change you get back the old Whig combination. (Laughter.) The fact is the Whigs are never happy unless they are in office. (Laughter.) It is the old story,—*Naturam expellas furcâ, tamen usque recurret.* And the consequence is that we have all the old family party back again, and, true to Whig antecedents, not satified with knocking their heads against walls in the ordinary course of nature, they must propose a special wall, in the shape of a select committee, in order to run their heads against that. (Laughter.)

The IRISH SOLICITOR-GENERAL (Mr. Dowse) replied to Mr. Osborne in the same vein, hinting that if the "confiding" Minister would sentence him for eighteen months to the treadmill of office he would become not only a silent but a grateful member. His argument on the general question was substantially the same as that of his leader. He explained that the committee would examine witnesses who would not go to Dublin Castle to give information. It would inquire whether these outrages were committed by illegal combinations, and the reasons for thinking so; and the members of the committee would have the opportunity of testing the evidence by cross-examination. The Government would not shrink from the responsibility of proposing whatever legislation might be necessary, but none would be more delighted if the result should be to show that exceptional legislation was unnecessary for Westmeath. As to secresy, it would remain in the discretion of the House to grant or refuse to the committee the power of closing its doors as occasion arose.

Dr. BALL expressed his regret that the Government proposal had dwindled down to a mere committee for recording outrage and tabulating crime, from—what he expected it to be—a genuine endeavour to bring out the heart and secret of this hateful confederacy. He regarded it as a mere political move to escape from Lord Spencer's pledges in Westmeath, and he prophesied that it would prove a useless abortion. At the same time, he was not prepared to refuse a searching inquiry, if it were preceded by immediate action, to remedy a state of things which the Irish Secretary had pronounced to be intolerable; and he held the Government responsible for every life lost by their policy of shifts and delays. Dr. Ball went on to canvass at length the success of the healing legislation, which he condemned chiefly on the ground that it had fostered a cry for a separate and national Government.

At a quarter before twelve, Mr. MAGUIRE moved the adjournment of the debate, to which Mr. GLADSTONE objected, and on a division the motion was beaten by 297 to 178. A second motion was made by Mr. H. MATTHEWS to the same effect, which was met by an earnest protest from Mr. GLADSTONE against a practice so obstructive to public business. Mr. DISRAELI declining to countenance it, the motion was withdrawn. The House then divided on the "previous question," which was rejected by 398 to 26, the great bulk of the Conservatives either leaving the House or voting with the Government. Finally, a third division was taken on the main question—the appointment of the select committee—which was carried (without amendment) by 256 to 175.

Some other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes past one o'clock.

SOUTH AFRICA.

On Friday Mr. R. N. FOWLER rose to call attention to the affairs of South Africa, particularly to the country in which diamonds have recently been discovered, and asked the House to call upon the Government to take steps to ascertain to what extent the Confederation of British possessions in South Africa and of the adjacent territories is practicable. Quoting from Mr. Chesson's pamphlet, he showed that since the annexation of the Orange River Territory the emigrant farmer who settled over the Vaal River had carried on a system of slavery under the guise of child apprenticeship. There was some hope that the South African republics would voluntarily form a confederation, and thus bring the Vaal River district under a system of government which would put down slavery. This, at least, was a movement which the Government should encourage; and he moved a resolution calling on them to inquire into the practicability of the project. Mr. Gilpin, Mr. Kinnaird, and Mr. Buxton supported this view. Lord BURY warned the Government of the danger of being led into another series of African wars. Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGHESSEN remarked that a great deal of money and many lives had been lost in colonisation and planting Christianity in uncivilised districts, and it could not be too clearly understood that, although Government would studiously avoid placing any obstacles in the way of colonisation by individual effort, it was not prepared to spend money and risk lives by pursuing a policy of annexation. With regard to the colonies already annexed to the Crown, the policy of the Government would be to encourage self-dependence and promote self-government. Sir C. ADDERLEY and Mr. TORRENS regretted the abandonment of the Orange River Territory by the British Government. In the end the motion was withdrawn.

THE BRITISH EMBASSY AT PARIS.

In calling attention to the circumstances under which Lord Lyons left Paris on the 17th Sept., Sir R. PEEL dwelt upon Lord Granville's repeated instructions that he should remain, and his own protestations up to the 12th Sept. that he desired to stay, and attributed his final departure—or as the hon. baronet called, his "flight"—to the persuasions of Prince Metternich. The date of his departure was especially ill chosen, as it took place while M. Jules Favre was negotiating with Count Bismark, and when the influence of the British Ambassador might have had a most beneficial effect; and the absence of our Ambassador at the time when M. Thiers was negotiating with the Prussian Chancellor in October was still more injurious to the prospects of peace. The question upon which those negotiations went off was that of the revictualling of Paris; and if Lord Lyons had been on the spot, he could have informed M. Thiers that it was not necessary to insist upon that point. The member for Tamworth described the conduct of Lord Lyons as "unmanly and ungenerous," and declared that unless a better defence could be offered for him than could be derived from the Blue Book, it was clear that he had been guilty of a dereliction of his duty to our fellow-countrymen in Paris, whom he left to the good offices of Mr. Washburne. The absence of Mr. Atlee, the British Consul, and Colonel Clermont, the Military Attaché, were also severally commented upon by the right hon. baronet. Mr. J. GOLDSMID approved of the conduct of Lord Lyons in quitting Paris, as he would otherwise have been cut off from communication with his own Government as well as with that of France, but strongly condemned the absence from Paris of Mr. Atlee, whose duty it was to protect the interests of British subjects there. Mr. B. COCHRANE, in defending the British Ambassador, relied a good deal upon the desire expressed by M. Jules Favre that the representatives of foreign Governments should not be shut up in Paris. Lord ENFIELD did not enter far into the particulars of the case, but confined himself chiefly to an appeal to the character and services of Lord Lyons. The real defence of the British Ambassador was offered by Mr. GLADSTONE, who after Mr. W. Lowther and Mr. Rylands had addressed the House, declared that Lord Lyons had acted upon rules and considerations supplied to him by the Government, and that therefore, if he had done wrong, not he, but the Ministry, was responsible. The Government were anxious that he should be in a position to communicate both with them and with a French Government; and therefore they considered that he had exercised a wise discretion in going to Tours. Lord Lyons, he said, would have sent one of his staff back to Paris, but could not obtain permission from the Prussians.

THE INDIAN ENGINEERING COLLEGE.

Sir F. GOLDSMID, referring to the recent establishment of an Engineering College under the auspices of the India Office, moved the following resolution:—

That, in the opinion of this House, young men, qualified by character and attainments for admission into the service of the Government of India as civil engineers, ought not to be excluded by reason of their not having been educated at a Government college.

Mr. GRANT DUFF, defending the system, said the original plan of open competition in England and happy-go-lucky training in India had hopelessly failed, and, what was more, the experience of ten years had taught them that scientific training in England, like so much more of our training, was in a chaotic, and indeed most rudimentary, state.

The course of the discussion turned almost exclusively against the Government scheme, Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Winterbotham, Sir D. Corrigan, Sir J. Lubbock, Dr. Ball, &c., all condemning it. Mr. LYON PLAYFAIR alone supported the Government, and, though the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER added his advocacy to that of Mr. G. DUFF, they were beaten by fifty-two to forty-six votes. Sir F. Goldsmid left the House and did not vote for his own resolution.

On the ATTORNEY-GENERAL moving that the Ecclesiastical Titles Act Repeal Bill be referred to a select committee, he was met by Mr. NEWDEGATE's counter-motion for a committee to consider the operation of all laws, including the canon law, affecting the assumption of ecclesiastical titles. On a division Mr. Newdegate was beaten by seventy-three to ten. The bill was then ordered to be referred to a select committee.

The House adjourned at ten minutes past one o'clock.

THE ARMY PURCHASE SYSTEM.

There was a large attendance of members on Monday, and the galleries were also very full. Prince Christian for some time occupied a seat above the clock, and in the latter part of the evening was joined by Prince Arthur.

Mr. CARDWELL moved the second reading of the Army Regulation Bill without a word, and Colonel LOYD LINDSAY at once rose to ask the House to declare that the expenditure necessary for the national defences and other demands on the Exchequer do not at present justify any vote of public money for the extinction of purchase in the army. The gallant colonel referred in detail to many matters connected with our military system not exactly included within the terms of his motion, and maintained that all that was wanted in the British army was reorganisation, while the abolition of purchase would impose a heavy burden upon the taxpayers, would deteriorate the character of our officers, and would destroy our regimental system. In this view he was seconded by Colonel LUKE WHITE, who recommended not compulsory service, but compulsory drill of all the youth of the country, as a more advisable measure of army reform than "trotting after the skirts" of Mr. Trevelyan, and devoting the public money to "the furtherance of a family mania."

Mr. DAVISON, the new Judge-Advocate-General, pointed out the evils and mischiefs of the purchase system. The abolition of purchase, he asserted, would not in any way interfere with our regimental system; and without the adoption of such a measure it was utterly impossible to reorganise the army. Colonel C. LINDSAY maintained that purchase was a private arrangement, and declared that the money paid for its abolition would be a dead loss to the taxpayers; while Sir GEORGE GREY expressed a confident opinion that it was impossible for the Government to attempt to bring the regular army into union with the auxiliary forces without proposing such a measure as this. In the absence of purchase, however, it would be impossible to resort to a system of seniority, and we must have recourse to selection and compulsory retirement. Captain STANLEY expressed himself as in the abstract a supporter of the abolition of the purchase system, but criticised the details of the Government measure, and expressed his disapproval of many of its most important provisions. Mr. H. R. BRAND admitted that the system of purchase facilitated promotion, but comparing its evils with its advantages, came to the conclusion that its maintenance was inexpedient, and that the best course would be for Parliament and the nation to make up their mind at once to the sacrifice necessary for the abolition. Lord MAHON, on the contrary, gave an unqualified support to Colonel Lindsay's resolution. Mr. MUNTZ strongly supported the abolition of the purchase system, but he was not so well satisfied with other provisions of the bill. Colonel GILPIN indulged in some criticisms upon the system of "control"; and declined to sanction the expenditure of several millions for the abolition of a system which he believed to be beneficial. To Mr. C. BUXTON it was a matter of the deepest regret that he was compelled to separate himself from his friends upon this question; but as he believed that the abolition of purchase would not really democratise the army—which was not even now an aristocratic institution—he could not give his sanction to the enormous expenditure which it would involve.

Major ARBUTHNOT explained the reasons which induced him to oppose the second reading of the bill. Mr. HEADLAM was willing to pay the regulation prices; but recommended in place of the payment of over-regulation rates the adoption of promotion by seniority. General HERBERT was not opposed to the abolition of the purchase system if fairly carried out; but warned the Government and the House that it would render necessary the establishment of a large and expensive scheme of retirement. Mr. WHITBREAD strongly protested against Mr. Headlam's proposal to pay only the regulation prices; and when Captain Talbot had delivered a successful maiden speech against the bill, and in support of the regimental system, the debate was, on the motion of Lord Elcho, adjourned till Thursday.

A little other business was disposed of, and the House rose.

The *Sun* newspaper, after a flickering existence, has ceased to appear. It was established in 1792, and Pitt was an occasional contributor to its columns.

DIVISION ON THE BURIALS BILL.

The following is the division list of Wednesday last, when the Burials Bill was carried by 211 to 149 votes:—

AYES.

Acland, T D	Finnie, W	M'Laren, D
Adam, W P	Fitzmaurice, Lord	Marling, S S
Agar-Ellis, Hn L	Fletcher, I	Matheson, A
Amcotts, Col W	Fordyce, W D	Melly, G
Anderson, G	Forster, W E	Merry, J
Anstruther, Sir R	Fortescue, Hn D	Miall, E
Armitstead, G	Gilpin, C	Milbank, F A
Baines, E	Gladstone, W H	Miller, J
Barclay, A C	Glyn, Hon G G	Mitchell, T A
Bass, A	Goldsmid, Sir F	Monk, C J
Bass, M T	Goldsmid, J	Morley, S
Baxter, W E	Goschen, G J	Muntz, P H
Bazley, Sir T	Gourley, E T	Nicol, J D
Beaumont, S A	Gower, Hn E F L	O'Brien, Sir P
Beaumont, Capt F	Graham, W	Ogilvy, Sir J
Biddulph, M	Grant, Col Hon J	Onslow, G
Bolckow, H W F	Grey, Sir G	Palmer, J H
Bouverie, E P	Grieve, J J	Pell, A W
Bowring, E A	Groavenor, Hn N	Pelham, Lord
Brand, H	Grosvenor, Capt R	Philips, R N
Brand, H R	Guest, M J	Pim, J
Brassey, H A	Hamilton, J G C	Playfair, L
Brassey, T	Harcourt, W G G	Plimsoll, S
Bright, J	Hardcastle, J A	Potter, E
Brinckman, Capt	Harris, J D	Potter, T B
Bristowe, S B	Haviland-Burke, E	Price, W E
Brogden, A	Headlam, T E	Ramsden, Sir J W
Bruce, Lord C	Henley, Lord	Rathbone, W
Bruce, Lord E	Henry, M	Reed, C
Bruce, H A	Herbert, Hn A E	Richard, H
Cadogan, Hon F	Herbert, H A	Richards, E M
Campbell, H	Hibbert, J T	Roden, W S
Candlish, J	Hodgkinson, G	Russell, A
Carnegie, Hon C	Hodgson, K D	Rylands, P
Carter, Alderman	Holland, S	St Aubyn, J
Cartwright, W C	Holmes, J	Samuda, J D'A
Cave, T	Hoskyns, C W	Samuelson, B
Cavendish, Lord F	Howard, Hn C W	Sartoris, E J
Cavendish, Lord G	Hughes, T	Seely, C
Chadwick, G	Hughes, W B	Seely, C
Cholmeley, Capt	Hurst, R H	Shaw, R
Cholmeley, Sir M	James, H	Sheridan, H B
Clay, J	Jessel, G	Sherlock, D
Clifford, C C	Johnston, A	Simon, Serjeant
Colebrooke, Sir T	Johnstone, Sir H	sinclair, Sir J G
Coleridge, Sir J	Kay-Shuttleworth, K J	Smith, E
Collier, Sir R	King, Hon J P L	Stacpoole, W
Colman, J J	Kingscote, Col	Stansfeld, J
Corrigan, Sir D	Knatchbull-Hugessen, E H	Stapleton, J
Cowper, Hon H	Lambert, N G	Stepney, Col
Cowper Temple, W	Lancaster, J	Stevenson, J C
Craufurd, E H J	Lawrence, Sir J C	Strutt, Hon H
Crawford, R W	Lawrence, W	Stuart, Col
Dalrymple, D	Lawson, Sir W	Talbot, C A M
D'Arcy, M P	Lea, T	Taylor, P
Davies, R	Leatham, E A	Tollemache, Hon F
Davison, J H	Leeman, G	Trelawny, Sir J
Delahunty, J	Lefroy, A	Vivian, H H
Dent, J D	Leigh, Hn E C	Vivian, Capt Hn J
Dickenson, S S	Lewis, J D	Wegueiin, T M
Dilke, Sir C W	Lewis, J H	Whalley, G H
Dillwyn, L L	Lloyd, Sir T D	Whitbread, S
Dodson, J G	Locke, J	Whitworth, L
Downing, M	Lubbocke, Sir J	Williams, E W
Dowse, R	Lusk, A	Williamson, Sir H
Edwardes, Hn Col	Lyttelton, Hon C	Wingfield, Sir C
Edwards, H	M'Evoy, E	Woods, H
Egerton, Hon Capt	Macfie, R A	Young, A W
Enfield, Lord	M'Clean, J R	
Erskine, Adam J	M'Clure, T	TELLERS.
Ewing, H E C	M'Combie, W	Morgan, O
Eykyn, R	M'Lagan, P	Dodds, J

NOES.

Adderley, Sir C	Forester, Gen	Mowbray, J R
Allen, Major	Garlies, Lord	Newdegate, C N
Amphlett, R P	Gore, J R O	Newport, Lord
Arkwright, A P	Graves, S R	Nicholson, W
Arkwright, R	Greaves, E	Noel, Hon G J
Assheton, R	Greene, H	North, Col
Bill, J T	Gregory, G B	Paget, R H
Baring, T	Hambro, C	Parker, Lt-Col W
Barnett, H	Hamilton, Lord C J	Patten, Col W
Barrow, W H	Hamilton, Lord G	Pell, A
Bathurst, A A	Hardy, G	Pemberton, E L
Beach, Sir M H	Hardy, J	Percy, Earl
Beach, W W	Hardy, J S	Phipps, C P
Bentinck, G C	Hay, Sir J C D	Powell, W
Beresford, Lt-Col	Herbert, Gen P	Raikes, H C
Birley, H	Hervey, Lord A	Read, C S
Bourke, Hon H	Heygate, W U	Ridley, M W
Bourne, Col	Hick, J	Round, J
Bright, R	Hildyard, T B	Royston, Lord
Broadley, W H	Hodgson, W N	Salt, T
Bruen, H	Holford, J P G	Sclater-Booth, G
Cartwright, F	Holford, R S	Scourfield, J H
Cave, S	Holmesdale, Lord	Selwin-Ibbetson, Sir H J
Cawley, C E	Holt, J M	Shirley, S E
Cecil, Lord E H	Hope, A J B	Smith, A
Chaplin, W T	Hornby, E K	Smith, F C
Child, Sir S	Hunt, G W	Smith, R
Clive, Hon Col G	Hutton, J	Smith, S G
Clowes, S W	Ingram, H F M	Stanley, Hon F
Cochrane, A D	Jackson, R W	Starkie, J P C
Cole, Hon Col D	Jenkinson, Sir G	Steere, L
Corbett, Col	Jones, J	Sykes, C
Corrance, F S	Kekewich, S T	Talbot, J G
Croft, Sir H G D	Kennaway, J H	Talbot, Hon Capt
Cross, R A	Lacon, Sir E	Tollemache, J
Cubitt, G	Laird, J	Turner, C
Davenport, W B	Learmouth, A	Walpole, Hon F
Dickson, Major A	Lennox, Lord G	Walpole, S H
Dimsdale, R	Liddell, Hon H	Welby, W E
Disraeli, B	Lindsay, Col R L	Wethered, T O
Duncombe, Hn Col	Lopes, Sir M	Williams, Sir F M
Du Pre, C G	Lowther, J	Wilmot, H
Dyott, Col R	Mahon, Lord	Winn, R
Egerton, Hon A	Manners, Lord J	Wise, H C
Egerton, Sir P	Manners, Lord G J	Wynn, Sir C W W
Egerton, Hon W	March, Earl	Wynn, C W W
Elliott, G	Meller, T W	Yarmouth, Earl
Feilden, H M	Meyrick, T	TELLERS.
Fielden, J	Miles, Hon G W	Barttelot, Col
Figgins, J	Mills, C H	Sackville, S
Finch, G H	Mitford, W T	

PAIRS.

FOR.	AGAINST.
Mr. Wells	Lord Elcho
Capt. Carrington	Mr. Chaplin
Major Gavin	Colonel Gilpin
Mr. Foljambe	Major Waterhouse
Mr. S. Aytoun	Mr. Dowdeswell
Major Anson	Captain Damer
Mr. Pease	Lord H. Scott
Mr. Ayrton	Mr. Peek
Mr. C. Denison	Baron M. Rothschild

Mr. W. M'C. Torrens also paired in favour of the Bill.

Mr. Watkin Williams and Mr. Wingfield, who would have supported the Bill, were accidentally shut out.

SUMMARY.

Voted in favour of the Bill ..	211
Tellers	2
Pairs	10
	223

Court, Official, and Personal News.

Her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Louise, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold, left Windsor Castle on Friday afternoon, and travelled by road to Claremont, which place they left yesterday. Claremont House is being prepared as a residence for the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorn after their marriage.

The special licence for the marriage of the Princess Louise with the Marquis of Lorn issued under seal of the Faculty Office, Doctors'-commons, on Saturday. The preparations for the ceremony are now in an advanced condition.

It is announced that Lord Lurgan has had the honour of showing his greyhound, "Master McGrath," to the Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales during the past week.

Holyrood Palace is being put in repair preparatory to the Queen's visit to Edinburgh, which will probably be during May.

Earl Granville entertained the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Prince and Princess Christian, Prince Arthur, the Prince and Princess of Teck, the Duke of Cambridge, and other distinguished guests, at dinner at the Foreign Office on Saturday. The Countess afterwards held a reception, which was attended by several hundred persons.

The *Times* regrets to hear that Mr. Childers has returned to London in a state which renders it impossible that he should resume the duties of his office. Mr. Childers is not suffering from any organic disease; his is simply a case of over-work, and if the cruel kindness of his colleagues had permitted him an earlier relief he might before this have been able to return to the Admiralty with the prospect of a long and useful career in the public service. As it is, a twelvemonth's absolute intermission of all official cares is essential to his recovery.

Mr. Goschen has been appointed First Lord of the Admiralty, in succession to Mr. Childers; and Mr. Stansfeld becomes President of the Poor-law Board, with a seat in the Cabinet. He will be succeeded as Secretary to the Treasury by Mr. Baxter. None of these changes will involve re-election.

On going into committee on the Army Regulation Bill, Mr. Mundella will move, that the House of Commons, while willing to assent to such expenditure as may be necessary for the abolition of purchase, is opposed to any increase in the Army Estimates.

Postscript.

Wednesday, March 8, 1871.

THE STATE OF PARIS.

(From the *Daily News* Correspondent.)

PARIS, TUESDAY.

Great agitation prevails among the National Guards, because they expect to be disbanded by General d'Aurelles des Paladines, and reconstituted in new battalions. The General, in an order of the day, has called upon the National Guards to behave themselves, and has declared that he will repress disorder; but still these Guards hold possession of Montmartre where they are installed undisturbed. Paris is otherwise perfectly tranquil.

It is at last arranged that the National Assembly shall sit for a time at Versailles. M. Picard went yesterday to make the necessary arrangements; but it will be impossible that it can meet there before the 20th of this month, as the Germans will not, perhaps, entirely quit the place till the 19th.

Paris is at last to be supplied with cabs. Horses, to the number of 5,000, have been purchased from the German army, at the price of 500 francs each.

The city is being rapidly vacated by the Mobiles, who are returning home. The disbanded troops are also being sent away, and replaced by marching regiments still retained under arms.

The Crown Prince of Prussia left Versailles early yesterday morning to attend the review of the troops to the east of Paris. It was not expected that he would return again to Versailles; but it was believed that, after visiting Ferrières and Meaux, he would continue his journey homeward.

The Emperor of Germany left Versailles at nine o'clock yesterday morning to hold the review.

A correspondent at Vienna mentions that some festivals there, and in other towns, proposed to be held by the German party, in honour of the German victories in France, have been forbidden by the Austrian Government.

At a Secret Consistory held in Rome on the 5th, the Pope again refused to enter into relations with the Italian Government.

A meeting of the Mansion House French Relief Fund Committee was held yesterday, the Lord Mayor presiding. Subscriptions amounting to nearly 120,000*l.* were reported. Lord Vernon, on behalf of the Peasant-Farmers' Seed Fund, stated that they had received 25,000*l.*; Mr. J. R. Robinson reported that up to this time the *Daily News* Fund exceeded 21,000*l.*; Mr. Bennoch said that the Refugees' Benevolent Fund amounted to 8,000*l.*; and Baron Gudin attended as the representative of a fund of 3,000*l.*

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

The business in the House of Lords last night was unimportant, and the sitting short.

In the Commons, Mr. DISRAELI, with a certain solemnity of manner, asked whether the Government were aware that a treaty was negotiated last year between the Courts of Russia and Prussia, referring to the war between Prussia and France; but all the information which he elicited from Mr. Gladstone was the simple statement that "we have not been informed of the existence of any such treaty."

Lord ENFIELD told Mr. Cochrane that the Foreign Office had no knowledge of the "contingencies" under which Baron Brunow had, in conversation with Lord Malmesbury and Lord Clarendon, reserved the right of Russia to call in question some of the clauses of the treaty of 1856.

The PREMIER informed Sir H. Williamson that an "entirely satisfactory" despatch has been received from Mr. Odo Russell, explaining the passage in his despatch of November 22, which referred to the possible necessity of our going to war with Russia "with or without allies." Mr. Gladstone afterwards gave notice that, as the Conference upon the Black Sea question cannot meet till Friday, he shall on Thursday appeal to Sir C. Dilke to postpone the motion upon that subject, of which he has given notice for the following night.

After a short time had been spent (at the instance of Mr. Stevenson) in discussing the position of leaseholders under the Dean and Chapter of Durham, Mr. SAMUELSON asked the appointment of a committee to inquire into the law, practice, and effect of grants of letters patent for inventions. After a long debate, in which there was great diversity of opinion, the committee was granted.

Mr. CANDLISH asked the House to pledge itself to make early provision for reducing the National Debt by 10,000,000*l.* a year. The motion was seconded by Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, who maintained that, with proper economy, we might at once diminish our debt and reduce taxation. After one or two other speeches had been delivered, Mr. LOWE pointed out that (including terminable annuities) our debt at the end of the great French war amounted to 900 millions, that eighty millions had since then been added to it, and that it now amounted to only 793 millions, thus showing that the payment of debt had not, as Mr. Candlish seemed to think, been entirely neglected during the last fifty-five years. At present we were paying off fifty millions of debt by terminable annuities, as well as some millions a year by means of surpluses; and he entirely refused to recognise the propriety of adding ten millions a year to our taxes to provide for the redemption of our obligations. At the same time, he admitted the duty of the country gradually to reduce the debt, and promised further information upon the subject at the time that he opens the Budget. Mr. CANDLISH was so well satisfied with the general tone of the debate that he withdrew his motion. At the instance of Mr. R. R. TORRENS, a short time was spent in discussing the propriety of instructing boys in State-aided and rate-aided schools in military drill and gymnastics. On the motion of Mr. CAWLEY, leave was given to bring in a bill to amend the Burials Acts. Mr. DIXON obtained leave to bring in a bill to repeal the cumulative voting clauses of the education Act of last year; and when some other business had been disposed of, the House adjourned.

THE ROYAL DOWRY.—At a crowded and disorderly meeting held at Sheffield last night, resolutions were passed strongly condemning the dowry to the Princess Louise. Three cheers were given for Mr. Fawcett, and three groans for the borough members, who voted for the grant.

THE COMMITTEE UPON ILLEGAL COMBINATIONS IN WESTMEATH.—The names of the members who will be proposed on Thursday night to constitute the members of this committee are the Marquis of Hartington, Mr. Disraeli, the Solicitor-General for Ireland, Mr. Hardy, Sir G. Grey, Colonel W. Patten, Mr. Downing, Lord Sandon, Mr. H. James, Mr. Pemberton, Mr. Maguire, Mr. R. Gurney, Mr. W. Gregory, Mr. Bruen, and the O'Conor Don.

PARLIAMENTARY GRANTS TO DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.—At a meeting of the London branch of the National Education League, held last evening at 9, Buckingham-street, Strand, it was unanimously resolved, "That any proposal to increase the Parliamentary grants to existing denominational schools would be most injurious to the interests of a national system of education, and must be met with the most earnest and uncompromising opposition; and that it is desirable that Liberal members of the House of Commons should be urged to resist any such system of concurrent endowment."

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Transactions on the Corn Exchange at Mark-lane to-day were restricted, but prices throughout were well supported. There was a limited supply of English wheat on sale. Foreign wheat was in good supply. Sales in all descriptions were effected quietly, at fully the rates current on Monday last. Barley was in fair supply. The trade was not active, but prices were quite as high. Malt changed hands slowly, on former terms. There was a better show of oats on the stands, which sold with less activity, at firm quotations. Beans and peas were in fair demand, at steady currencies. Flour experienced a limited inquiry, but values ruled firm.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"S. B. and B. B."—Next week.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1871.

SUMMARY.

THE war between Germany and France is now at an end. On Wednesday last the preliminary treaty of peace was brought before the National Assembly at Bordeaux. Its provisions in general were not discussed, but many protests were made against the alienation of French territory; but the advice of M. Louis Blanc, that France should boldly reject the treaty, and carry on a guerilla war, met with hardly any response. The matter having been declared urgent, the Parliament accepted the treaty by 546 to 107 votes—the minority being composed chiefly of the members for districts which will now be annexed to Germany, and of the Paris delegates. The former retired amid an affecting farewell from an Assembly in which they have no longer a right to sit; and many of the latter, including M. Rochefort, in obedience to an "imperative mandate" from their constituents, also resigned their seats. The Treaty, thus ratified, was forwarded with all haste to Paris on Thursday, and, in the terms of the Armistice Convention, the German regiments, which had marched into Paris on Wednesday morning and made "a triumphal bivouac" in the Champs Elysées and adjoining quarters, retired from the city on Friday morning. During that interval the Parisians were gloomy and excited, but the excellent arrangements which had been made prevented any outbreak. The Reds have reserved their hostile demonstrations for the Government of France, whose painful duty it will now be to overcome their armed resistance, and obtain possession of their entrenched camps flanked by guns at Montmartre and Belleville, by negotiation or force.

The National Assembly at their meeting of Wednesday last found, as is the French custom, a scapegoat. It was useless to rail at the Germans for the hard terms they had imposed. But the declaration of a deputy that Napoleon III., "whose name would be eternally nailed to the pillory of history," ought to sign the Treaty, gave rise to an exciting scene, which rose to tumult when M. Conti and some Corsican representatives manfully came forward to defend the Empire. In the end a resolution pronouncing the deposition of the Emperor, and adding "that the Assembly declares him to be responsible for all our misfortunes—the ruin, the invasion, and the dismemberment of France," was carried with enthusiastic cheers; the deputies, with few exceptions, rising simultaneously to confirm the vote. A Committee has been appointed to inquire into all the acts of, and impeach, the late Government of Defence, and an ill-timed suggestion on Saturday that the Assembly should send some testimony of its gratitude to the people of England was received with indignant shouts of "No," and rejected. At present the French Parliament, which is soon to be transferred to Versailles, yields to the influence of M. Thiers, but it is impatient of the Republic, and eager to decree an Orleanist restoration with the Duc d'Aumale as the chief of the State.

The signing of the preliminaries of peace has called forth a grateful telegram from the Emperor William to the Czar, who is credited with having prevented the war from assuming "extreme dimensions." The Emperor of Russia in reply expresses his happiness at being able to prove his sympathy "as a devoted friend," though his subjects do not by any means share his views. This exchange of compliments has revived the report of the existence of a secret treaty between Prussia and Russia, of which, however, Mr. Gladstone last night declared, in reply to Mr. Disraeli, that he had no information.

The felicitations of the Czar are not reflected in all parts of Germany. At least we are told that the harshness of the terms imposed on France has produced "a bad effect," and has elicited "universal reprobation" at Frankfort, where it is said the war indemnity of 200 millions (really, making all deductions, 160 millions) will not only pay off all the recent German loans, but the old ones too, and leave a handsome balance in the Treasury! There are, it seems, Germans who do not approve of making a handsome pecuniary profit out of war. France, however, must pay to the last franc, and it is expected that a supreme effort will be made to clear off the whole of this gigantic liability during the present year, and thus entirely relieve the country from the presence of the enemy.

The House of Commons has wasted much valuable time during the week, owing chiefly to Mr. Gladstone's ill-advised proposal for a Select Committee to inquire into the condition of Westmeath. So general was the conviction that the Prime Minister had made a mistake, as to create an impression that the motion would be withdrawn. Mr. Gladstone was, however, resolute, and on Thursday, after an animated debate, in the course of which Sir Robert Peel and Mr. Osborne poured out the vials of their wrath and wit upon the head of the Premier, a majority of 81 voted the Committee, the leaders of the Opposition guarding against the possibility of placing the Government in a minority on this question by walking out of the House without voting. Mr. Osborne's statement that the Committee was a mere whim of Mr. Gladstone's, which evidently was not acceptable to his most staunch supporters, is probably correct. A dreary discussion was began at Monday's sitting on Mr. Cardwell's Army Regulation Bill, which will hardly terminate till Friday—all the generals and colonels in the House feeling it necessary to express their views on the proposed abolition of the purchase system. Apparently the Government will have to modify their scheme so as to guard against the continuance of purchase under the new *régime*.

The Government have sustained a great loss by the retirement of Mr. Childers, worn out with excessive devotion to his official duties. The statement of Commodore Roberts, of the United States, sent over to inspect the navies of Europe, who told Lord Granville that he was struck with the admirable state of our navy and its immense superiority to all the other navies with which he was acquainted, is striking testimony to the efficiency of Mr. Childers's naval administration. He will be succeeded as First Lord of the Admiralty by Mr. Goschen, who has shown great official capacity and leaves his mark at the Poor Law Board, though not believed to know much about the navy. Mr. Stansfeld, who would probably have been the most capable successor of Mr. Childers, but who is not in great favour in high quarters, is transferred to Gwydyr House, with a seat in the Cabinet. Mr. Baxter will replace Mr. Stansfeld as Secretary of the Treasury, at which many a lax Admiralty official and contractor will rejoice. There are no doubt great difficulties in effecting Ministerial rearrangements of which the public know nothing. But such considerable changes of Ministers, after they have gained valuable experience in their own departments, are not desirable in the public interest. Mr. Gladstone has, however, yielded to the feeling of his Liberal supporters by calling Mr. Stansfeld to the Cabinet, and we can only hope that Mr. Goschen at the Admiralty will closely follow in the footsteps of his energetic predecessor.

The new Congress in America has begun its Session. The House of Representatives contains 131 Republicans and 96 Democrats; the majority of the former having greatly diminished. Ere long it is probable there will be a keen struggle on the fiscal policy of the Union; the free-trade party being strong in the new House. But the High Joint Commission now sitting at Washington excites more interest than the proceedings of the Legislature, which has indeed adjourned *sine die*. The Commissioners are going through a course of dining and receptions, and have hardly as yet proceeded to serious business. The American papers expect a successful issue of the negotiations, but English correspondents are not so sanguine. It is said that the fishery problem is causing more trouble than the Alabama claims. It seems also that the cession of British America to the United States is actually to be brought before the Commission, and a resolution proposed in the Senate declaring "that the possession by Great Britain of the northern portion of the continent of North America is in its very nature an obstacle to the permanent harmony of the two Governments, and a standing incitement to persons anxious to involve them in war," has been referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. This is rather an odd way of commencing amicable negotiations!

NATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS AND ARMAMENTS.

THERE appears to be a growing tendency in the leading political men of the present day to lead this country back to that condition of entanglement in Continental affairs, from which most of us had fondly hoped it was gradually extricating itself, and, of course, to burden it with the largely increased armaments which a renewal of the bygone policy would render indispensable. The questions that come up for discussion in both Houses of Parliament in relation to the reorganisation of our military forces, seem to take for granted that we shall not limit ourselves to a purely defensive system. It seems that, in the course of some three or four centuries, England has guaranteed several of the States of Europe against dangers apprehended at successive periods from neighbouring Powers, and no limitations of time having been put upon the force of these covenants, she has at this moment an accumulation of international obligations at sight of which her boldest statesman might well recoil. It is true that some of these covenants have become practically dormant. It is possible that, for many years to come, not one of them will claim active interference on the part of the Government of the United Kingdom. But it is none the less certain that we have so extensively mixed ourselves up with the distribution of political power on the Continent, that if we were suddenly called upon to fulfil the promises we have so lavishly made, we should find the armaments which already cost us some five-and-twenty millions a year, utterly insufficient for the maintenance of what is called our "national honour."

We are not at all sorry, therefore, that on Monday last the Marquis of Salisbury called the attention of the House of Lords to this important subject. With the object he had in view, and the tone which pervaded the greater portion of his speech, it is, of course, impossible for us to sympathise to the smallest extent. Perhaps, as an Opposition leader, he felt himself at liberty to handle the topics he brought forward with more recklessness as to the effect of his words, whether at home or abroad, than he would have felt if he had stood in the responsible position of a Minister of the Crown. The gist of his remarks seemed adapted, if not intended, to enforce upon the Government the necessity of what used to be called a "spirited foreign policy," and the consequent propriety of very largely augmenting the national armaments. He reminded their Lordships that our guarantees covered pretty nearly the whole of Europe—including Portugal, Belgium, Switzerland, Greece, Turkey, and Sweden. He pointed out the scope and force of some of these guarantees, and he showed that they related almost invariably to those smaller Powers of Europe, marked out by the destiny of the world for absorption into one or other of the larger Empires, and whose territories are, therefore, of all others, most likely to be attacked. He contrasted the diminutive proportions of our army with the gigantic scale upon which the armies of Russia, Austria, and Germany have been maintained, and he drew the inference that, unless we were prepared to accept our *rôle d'effacement* we might presently find ourselves in a position of terrible humiliation, unable to redeem our pledges, and, at the same time, prevented from disregarding them without an abnegation of duty which would be fatal to the honour of the country.

We confess that Lord Granville's reply to the noble Marquis, whilst it effectually disposed of his exaggerations as to the insignificant position held by England at the present time, gave us no very consolatory assurances in respect of the future. He told us, indeed, that England, as she had done in the past, so she would in the future, maintain in good faith all her treaty engagements, but he did not point out how it was possible to do this in the event of adverse circumstances, without inflicting upon the country enormous burdens. Of course, he places some reliance, as in reason he is bound to

do, upon the moderate policy of each of the Great Powers, but we cannot conceal from ourselves the fact that self-restraint and moderation have not, of late, been very characteristic of their respective Sovereigns or Governments. The whole European system has undergone a radical change since 1815, and, within the last ten years, many old landmarks have disappeared, and the equilibrium adjusted by the Treaties of Vienna has been violently disturbed. It is time that we reviewed our position in relation to these facts. Technically speaking, there can be no doubt that we remain bound by stipulations which have now of themselves, or as the result of entirely new conditions, become practically obsolete. Morally speaking, however, our responsibilities have become greatly changed by the new aspect which the Continental system has assumed. Would it not be wise for us to look these relations, and their respective obligations, fairly in the face? Ought we not to make up our minds, once for all, whether we will attempt to disentangle ourselves from a position which has neither reason, policy, nor interest to recommend it, and to content ourselves with the development of that rational moral influence which we are competent to exert to the highest possible degree? One thing or another. We must either take steps towards separating ourselves from the territorial interests with which we have been mixed up, or we must plunge once again into that vast abyss of foreign policy which sooner or later will absorb all the material resources of the country, and beggar a large proportion of our thriving population.

We are well aware that the process of disentanglement would be a difficult and delicate one, and that it could not be completed in a hurry. It might, too, be resisted by the false national pride of the classes which practically determine the character of our foreign policy. England, it will be said, can never be permitted to sink down into a second or a third-rate Power. England, we may reply, need never do that, even although she has the moral courage to recognise her true position among the nations. In regard to military force, she cannot pretend to vie with the great continental monarchies. To do so would be to invite, and almost to necessitate, that very humiliation which such a course is intended to avert. Providence has assigned to her a special geographical position, and, with it, special national duties. Let her aspire, if she will, "to teach the nations how to live," but let her eschew the ambition of competing with other nations in the work of mutual destruction. She has a vast industrial population, fed by her world-wide commercial enterprise. She is bound by her obligations to God and to herself to use all the powers entrusted to her in eradicating the social evils which a long succession of wars has already entailed upon her people. She has no right to mortgage the inheritance which she ought to hand down improved to posterity, for the sake of gratifying her pride in meddling with Continental affairs, or of rivalling in the means and arts of slaughter, States which are not so happily placed as herself. We have been kept out of the Franco-German war, and are devoutly thankful for it. Would it not be well that we should turn so great a blessing to account, in withdrawing ourselves, as soon as may be, from those engagements which place us under the strongest possible temptation to embark in war, when neither our interests nor our true honour would oblige us to do so?

THE GERMANS IN PARIS.

MARCH 1st, 1871, will be a day memorable in the annals of France and the history of Europe. Last Wednesday the National Assembly at Bordeaux, at a single and mournful sitting, ratified the preliminary treaty of peace with Germany, signed by M. Thiers and his colleagues at Versailles; and on the same day a portion of Paris was occupied by some 30,000 of the besieging German army. There is no doubt that the latter event hastened the former. By accelerating their vote the deputies at Bordeaux shortened the bivouac of the enemy in the French capital, and perhaps prevented a turbulent outbreak. On Thursday M. Favre was able to carry to Versailles the treaty, duly ratified by the National Assembly, and the German battalions encamped around the Tuileries were obliged to leave the city on Friday morning, sooner than they had wished for or expected.

"All's well that ends well." It cannot be denied that the German entry into Paris, though not worth the risk of an armed collision and massacre, was a legitimate consummation of the capture of the city, and a wholesome lesson to its boastful and volatile inhabitants. The Parisians needed ocular demonstration that they had been conquered, and they suffered the humiliation which had been intended for the Berliners. They received the needed discipline without, however, affording their foes any ground for triumph. For so vast a city the behaviour of the vast majority of the population under circumstances so exasperating, was quiet and dignified. No newspapers appeared, the shops and restaurants were closed, and the streets almost deserted. Comparatively few of the citizens lent *éclât* to the Prussian entry by their appearance on the ground as spectators, and Belleville and La Villette showed a morbid anxiety to remain quiet, in the belief, industriously propagated, that their conquerors would have been delighted at a collision on the Champs Elysées. Though there were some slight and rather spiteful ebullitions of feeling, and a few quasi-Prussians were cruelly hunted down and maltreated, the great mass of the Parisians can hardly be held responsible for such isolated outrages. The event was gloomy alike to Paris and its captors. The Germans saw few of the public buildings, and in the deserted state of the streets, could form little idea of the wonted life and animation of the gayest capital of Europe. After all their perils and hardships, it was a disappointment, with which we cannot sympathise, to be baulked of a triumphal entry into the fallen city.

Though the forces which so lately beleaguered the great fortress are now out of sight of the sensitive population, and removed beyond the Seine, Paris remains "the great difficulty" of the French Government. The troops of General Vinoy, assisted by the barricades erected for the occasion, sufficed to prevent a collision with the Germans, but were unequal to the task of suppressing symptoms of disaffection when the enemy had gone. The whole available male population was during the siege enrolled in the National Guard, and the Red Republicans are not only armed, but hold positions on the heights of Montmartre and Belleville, which are defended by numerous pieces of artillery, and they have paraded the principal boulevards with a red flag. The Ultras of the turbulent districts are said to be better armed and munitioned than the Parisian mob has ever yet been in any time of popular emotion recorded in the history of France. To restore order and obedience to authority in Paris, without provoking an insurrection, is the first and most trying task of the new Government, now that the Germans are retiring. But the National Guards are now placed under the control of General d'Aurelles des Paladines, the sternest disciplinarian in the French service, and thousands of troops from the Army of the Loire are pouring into Paris and occupying all the strongest positions. We sincerely trust that the leaders of the Red Republicans will dissuade them from a fanatical resistance, which could only end in deplorable and useless bloodshed.

The inordinate claims of Paris are now felt throughout France to be both an injury to the country and a source of public danger. France has been neglected and impoverished in order that the capital might flourish. The reaction against this policy is a hopeful sign—the first step, let us hope, towards that decentralisation without which all other reforms are imperfect. The scheme of transferring the National Assembly to Versailles or Fontainebleau, where it would be out of reach of mob violence, is being seriously debated by the deputies, and their ultimate decision will no doubt be greatly influenced by the attitude of the Ultras of Paris. An outbreak in the chief city, though it might not lead to the adoption of another town as the capital of France, would seriously diminish the *prestige* of Paris, retard the restoration of order and prosperity, and afford ground for exultation on the part of her German conquerors.

PROFESSOR SEELEY'S DREAM OF THE FUTURE.

THE readiness of nations to go to war with each other is one of those mysterious phenomena that perplex the philosopher and discourage the moralist. All men profess to hate war; all are ready to disclaim the responsibility of the fatal decision; every one is appalled with its senseless horrors and sheer barbarisms. Few indeed are disposed seriously to set themselves to discover a real preventative of war. We find potentates, who had accepted the Paris Declaration in favour of international arbitration, utterly ignoring the obligations they had entered into, and drawing the sword; democracies whose creed is "liberty, equality, and fraternity," recklessly egging on their rulers until they are unsuccessful in the field. And now, during the latter portion of the nineteenth century, the "blood and iron" international policy is the best recognised, if not the most accepted means of governing the civilised world; and England, which had bid fair to be the apostle of peace among the nations, casts aside her enlightened maxims, and hastens to bow down to the Bismarkian Moloch by joining in the race for huge armaments. The most frightful war of modern times has ended in an armed truce. Conquered France has, besides the loss of territory, had to pay an unheard-of war indemnity. Yet this indemnity bears but a small proportion to the terrible expenditure which the whole of Europe will have to incur to maintain a system of mutual suspicion and distrust from which all alike suffer, and none strive to remedy.

The Professor of History at Cambridge therefore deserves great credit for attempting in any way to solve this perplexing problem. Even if his plan is Utopian, or a dream to be realised only in the distant future, it is a courageous endeavour to direct, or bring back, the thoughts of men into the right channel. To accept war as a fatal necessity is the means of perpetuating war. To discuss schemes for putting down this curse of humanity is to keep alive hope, and to set mankind upon the discovery of the right path towards universal peace. Mr. Seeley offered his contribution to the general stock in the carefully prepared lecture we were able to give *in extenso* last week. He puts his hand upon the fatal flaw of all proposals for arbitration in international disputes by showing that the Court of Appeal would have no means of enforcing its decisions, and comes to the conclusion that there is no prospect of putting an end to war except by expedients which virtually involve a reconstruction of society. The Professor would, to state his scheme very baldly, constitute Europe on the American basis. A Federation of States, the component parts of which possessed no separate rights or means of offence or defence, is his solution of the grand problem, and he despairs of any other that will be effectual.

"That union of nations which here," says Professor Seeley, "is a wish, a Utopia, a religion, has advanced a great step towards practical reality on the other side of the Atlantic. There you have already seen what seems so chimerical here—States subsisting side by side as amicably as departments or counties; to protect frontiers like those of France no more need for a Metz or Strasbourg than on the boundary of Middlesex and Hertfordshire; and in the budget of States as large as England no grant for a war establishment." The United States have indeed had one gigantic war, but it was a war against the principle of division, and they were able to disarm at the end of it. "In spite of their one internal war there, I say the American Union may be said to have solved the problem of the abolition of war, and we may see there the model which Europe, far superior to America in perfection of culture and in literary and artistic wealth, should imitate in her international relations." Europe must, argues the learned Professor, have a new citizenship. "We must cease to be mere Englishmen, Frenchmen, Germans, and must begin to take as much pride in calling ourselves Europeans. Europe must have a constitution as well as the States that compose it. There must be a European legislature and executive as strong and as important as those that meet and act at Washington. Nor will all this succeed unless the discrepancies of language, race, culture, and religion, can be so far overcome, that by slow degrees the members of the new State may come to value their new citizenship as much and at last more than their old, so that when any great trial comes when State membership draws one way and federal membership another, they may as the Americans did in their trial prefer the Union to the State." This is, indeed, the doctrine of Victor Hugo, who proclaimed it anew last week in the Bordeaux Assembly when the terms of peace were under consideration. Only the French champions of solidarity would force the theory—"vengeance and fraternity," as it is comically described in relation to Germany—at once upon a reluctant world, while Mr. Seeley would depend upon the slow growth of opinion.

The Professor does not ignore the tremendous obstacles to the realisation of his splendid dream, but he thinks they may in time be overcome. Human zeal and energy he thinks will eventually make it a reality. "It may be a long voyage that has to be made, but it is a voyage with wind and tide,—the steady wind and irresistible tide of manifest destiny." "What is required, therefore," he thinks, "is not anything new in kind; it is but a movement such as every population in Europe has had experience of; a movement new only in being extensive beyond precedent, in including many nations at once, and therefore in demanding more careful guidance; and for an unprecedented movement you can surely furnish unprecedented motives." But, under existing circumstances,

it is not a reform, but a revolution, which is in question. It would require a general intelligence and restraint, a suppression of dynasties, a freedom of opinion, which do not exist. America owes her model federation not so much to the superior intelligence of her citizens as to specially favourable circumstances of her position. It has grown up without any "movement" whatever. In Europe there is no such leverage. Here the apostles of solidarity, few though they may be, would enforce their views sword in hand—so little do they believe in their own panacea. It is not difficult to engender a wholesome public opinion such as that which put down duelling in England; but to create it throughout Europe in favour of a scheme which threatens every continental throne, and arouses national jealousies and the antipathies of race, is an enterprise all but Utopian.

We would not by any means imply that Professor Seeley's idea of a European Federation will never be realised. It may come, as in America, out of the necessities of the continental nations—necessities hardly as yet felt. The other day, Victor Hugo, apostrophising Germany, exclaimed, "No more conquest. Let us be the same Republic, the United States of Europe, the Continental Federation, European liberty, universal peace. Let us clasp each other's hands, for we have rendered service to each other. Thou hast delivered me from my Emperor. I will deliver thee from thine." Such utterances the world laughs at as rhapsody. So we must keep in the old paths till nations somewhat more approximate. Let our Peace Society continue its meritorious work. We only wish the public would enable it to carry on operations upon a colossal scale befitting the exigencies of the present time. That it prevents a good deal of mischief, and leavens public opinion in this country, is acknowledged. Its leading supporters, as Mr. Richard, M.P., pointed out in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Seeley, do not prescribe any Shibboleth to be pronounced by those who co-operate with them, but cordially welcome all who are willing to help in promoting measures for superseding war by other and better means of settling differences between nations. They have urged almost time out of mind a mutual and simultaneous reduction of armaments, and various schemes of arbitration; the adoption of a new and more enlightened code of international law; and the establishment of a court of delegates from civilised nations, to judge such cases as should be brought before it by the mutual consent of two or more contending nations. Many a year will, we fear, elapse ere these wise and common-sense proposals are generally accepted, however persistently they may be urged, and many more before the state of political millenium arrives, when the scheme so forcibly and elaborately sketched by Professor Seeley is destined to be embodied in practice by the commonwealth of European nations.

TEACHING THE INFANTS.

If the newly-appointed School Boards make a proper use of the extensive powers with which they have been entrusted, the next generation will see removed from this country the stigma of being one of the most expensively yet inefficiently educated among civilised nations. We are an extremely slow people. It takes a great deal to move us, but when we are once set in motion, nothing can stop us. We always end by doing more than, at the outset, we intended to perform. In glancing over the past history of the popular-education movement in this country, one finds it rich in illustrations of the national characteristic. At every stage timidity has impeded the work of progress, and then is suddenly replaced by a kind of defiant fearlessness which rapidly makes up for lost time. It is the knowledge of this which renders our social and political reformers so patient. So long as they are not idle, so long as they continue promulgating the ideas of which they are the expounders, they have but to wait, and their hour will surely come. The theorist of yesterday is the practical man of to-day. Who laughs at the idea of an infant-school? Yet there was a time, and that too during the present century, when such an institution would have been deemed an impossibility. When Robert Owen propounded his notion of an infant-school, great was the storm of odium and ridicule thereby excited. His unhappy Socialist doctrines contributed largely to this result, but the popular notion that he was an impracticable dreamer did more than anything else to prevent the immediate realisation of his views. What would Owen say now, could he rise from his tomb and view the numerous infant-schools which have become established through the length and breadth of the land? There is scarcely a town or village in which they are not to be found. True, the majority are sadly defective as regards suitable educational arrangements; still the germs of future usefulness exist. They will soon become, so far as their present condition is concerned, things of the past, living only in the pages of the historian or on the canvas of the painter. The history of our infant-schools is, to some extent, illustrative of that of our labouring classes. Among the rich they are unknown; among the poor they are a necessity. In the households of the wealthy the absence of a mother is compensated for by the employment of a competent and properly remunerated nurse; in the cottages of our artisans and labourers, the mothers are too poor to engage any such assistance.

As Mr. Bartley observes, in a work* referred to by us in a previous article, it is the imperfect condition of the homes of most of the working classes which has led to the origin of infant-schools. The best training for a child of the tender age of two years should be undoubtedly that of the mother; and when the home influence is good, and the education of the parent satisfactory, infant-schools would be unnecessary. But when will such homes become the rule? The time will not soon arrive when working women will cease to find it necessary to neglect their households while they assist in augmenting the scanty family income. The neglected condition of the children of the poor is not always the result of indifference on the part of the parents. It is not always the gin-bottle which keeps empty the cupboards of the poor. But why should the little ones suffer for this? We complain of the rapidly increasing number of "roughs" infesting our larger cities and towns—have we ever inquired what proportion of these have experienced in childhood the refining influence of a properly conducted school? We fear that in the cry raised in favour of technical education, and of improved modes of classical instruction, the necessity for looking more closely after our infant-schools is being lost sight of. It is in these that we must look for the seeds of future working-class progress. Their true importance seems never to have been rightly understood. Even in our Sunday-schools we often find the senior scholars shrinking from taking charge of the infant classes, as though it was a labour beneath their dignity to accept. Yet it is in these very classes that the real work of education may be commenced. The mind is still a blank page, ready to receive first impressions, and the lessons so acquired are seldom forgotten, even in after life. A child is never so young but what it can be taught something, if only to listen while a hymn is being sung, or to remain quiet while other child lips breathe in tones of trustful earnestness the simple yet eloquent words of the Lord's Prayer. Both as regards religious and secular education, we have yet much to do before we can honestly declare our system of infant instruction is what it ought to be.

The principal obstacle in the way of improving our infant-schools consists in the large number of dame-schools which are to be found everywhere. Concerning these Mr. Bartley gives us some very interesting particulars. A dame-school is usually conducted by an elderly woman, who, either from age, misfortune, or other cause, is not able to earn a livelihood in an ordinary occupation, but takes charge of the children of her neighbours for a small weekly consideration. It is hardly necessary to say that the qualification for teaching does not in any way enter into the consideration of the individual conducting such a school, many being able to do little more than put their alphabet together and spell the simplest syllables. These places are rather for taking care of children during certain hours, than for educating them. On no other grounds can their number or popularity be explained. They are the nurseries of the poor. Mr. Bartley says that the state of the dame-schools some fifty years ago, when Dr. Pole wrote, does not appear to have been very encouraging. He considered that if the pupils learned little of reading, they received still less moral instruction, as the schoolmistress had no idea that children could be trained to anything but a knowledge of the alphabet; while, "as to improving the temper, such a course of discipline would probably be laughed at by both parents and schoolmistress." One worthy mistress of a dame-school, being asked the number of her scholars, replied, "It is unlucky to count them. It would be a flat flying in the face of Providence. No, no, you sha'n't catch me counting. See what a pretty mess David made of it when he counted the children of Israel." This is a type also of not a few schoolmistresses of the present day. Yet, defective as are the educational capacities of this class, their moral character is generally most respectable. They sometimes affect an air of gentility, which leads many of the working people to regard them as being more fit than a properly trained schoolmaster or mistress to take charge of the young. But if their educational capabilities are limited, still more so is the accommodation provided by them for the use of their scholars. In the poorer class of dame-schools, the mistress frequently has but one room, and Mr. Assistant-Commissioner Winter says:—"Scholars may often be seen sitting round the sides of a four-post bed, on low forms, the sides of the bed forming a back to the seat, sometimes on the sides of the bed. When the children are present, the atmosphere is always oppressive to me; and often, if I stay in it for ten minutes without opening the window, it makes me sick."

There are thousands of such schools in this country. In the metropolis they abound, especially in the poorer neighbourhoods. Mr. Bartley gives a picture of one such place. It is in a cellar, and has been in existence about thirty years, the number of children averaging from twenty to thirty per week. The mistress of this school owned that she was not a scholar, being sixty-five years old and having been brought up in the country, where schools "were scarce in her time." She objected to teaching with pictures, as the little children "would look at them"; consequently she preferred a string of dry sentences which, judging from appearances, the "children wouldn't look at." Mr. Bartley does not, however, mention the German dame-schools to be found in some parts of the metropolis, in which the children are taught on the Kinder-garten system. These schools are strictly private, yet they are carried on in a comparatively efficient manner. Nothing can exceed the popularity of the Kinder-garten system so far as the children are concerned. They love this mode of teaching in play. It is to them real amusement, not a dry hard task. Unfortunately, although it has been partially introduced into our British and National Schools, the system is utterly unknown in the schools where it would be most useful—the English dame-schools. Here is a field for the social reformer. The new School Boards will for some years to come have enough to do with the education of the children; the infants will remain beyond their province for the present. Yet it is possible that they may be enabled to devise some practical mode of rendering the dame-schools more efficient; to abolish them is impossible. Certainly the problem is one which ought to be solved. It is not for us to halt on the way after having proceeded so far. We must go on. We should like to see some of the female members of the School Board devoting their attention to this question. It is one on which they might employ themselves to some advantage.

* *The Schools for the People.* By GEORGE C. T. BARTLEY. (London: Bell and Daldy).

WORKING MEN IN PARLIAMENT.—The Labour Representation League have issued an address to the working men electors of the United Kingdom, in which it is pointed out that although there are twenty millions of persons in the United Kingdom belonging to the working classes, there is not one direct representative of labour in the House of Commons. The working classes are called upon to organise, so as to return qualified men of their own order to Parliament.

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER ON THE "VICES OF THE DAY."—The Bishop of Manchester, speaking at the annual meeting of the supporters of St. Mary's Home, West Gorton, on Tuesday, expressed an opinion that the tone of society in general, from the highest to the lowest, had fallen in the scale of purity; that the style of women's dress now prevailing was not becoming; that the literature they read would not implant the principles of purity; and that the reports from the Divorce Court which would be found lying on the drawing-room table were a disgrace to our civilisation and Christianity.

THE GREAT DIAMOND ROBBERY.—Martha Torpey, described as a married woman, was on Wednesday charged at the Old Bailey with a robbery on James Unett Parkes, and stealing from him a diamond necklace, and other goods, value 2,500*l*. She was also charged with applying chloroform to Parkes, with intent to assist her husband in the robbery. The prisoner pleaded guilty. She appeared in the dock carrying a baby. During the hearing of the case she was accommodated with a seat. She was pale and looked careworn. The witness Parkes related the story of the outrage at 4, Upper Berkeley-street, on the 12th of January, and at the close of the evidence for the prosecution, Mr. Montagu Williams contended that the prisoner was entitled to an acquittal, on the ground that she acted under the compulsion of her husband. The jury eventually acquitted the prisoner of the robbery, on the ground that she had acted under her husband's coercion, and the verdict is said to have been received with loud applause. She was then put on her trial for the assault, on that also she was acquitted, and was then discharged

GERMANY AND FRANCE.

THE FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE TREATY OF PEACE.

On Wednesday the National Assembly met at Bordeaux at one o'clock, and great emotion appeared to prevail among all the members. Many ladies in black were in the galleries. Many protests against the cession of territory had been deposited in the bureaux of the President.

M. Victor Lefranc, the Reporter of the Commission, then read the report which had been unanimously adopted by the Commission. It recommended the Assembly to accept the preliminaries of peace submitted to them by the Government as they were. M. Lefranc said that the Commission did not propose any alteration in the negotiations, and that they have done everything that was possible to ameliorate the conditions and to avoid the grievous cession of territory, but they had to think of the situation of Paris and the threats of the enemy, who had so cruelly forgotten the rights of the peoples. The occupation of Paris was also very grievous, but it was an inevitable calamity. He added—

The actual misfortunes we are suffering are the result of causes for which we are not answerable, but the honour of France is safe. (At this point loud protests were heard from the benches of the Left.) Nevertheless, Europe will not allow us to be disarmed or crushed; that calculation is baffled. For the present what we have to do is to put a stop to the scourge of invasion; in the future we have to repair the past, neither throwing ourselves into the arms of Revolution, nor taking refuge in Cæsarism. (Loud murmurs.)

In conclusion M. Lefranc said:—

The Commission had for an instant been seduced by the idea of allowing the enemy latitude to do what he would, and leaving to the judgment of Europe and of equity to decide between us; but, with the forts of Paris in the occupation of the Germans, our armies disorganised, and our lines everywhere threatened, the Commission would not have recourse to such an irreparable act of despair which would have ruined Paris and France would have been immolated without having been consulted. If you refuse to accept these preliminaries Paris is occupied, and the whole of France will be invaded, and God only knows what disasters will ensue. We do not then counsel you to abandon yourselves to despair. Whatever may happen, France will retain her right of fulfilling her mission in the world. (Ironical cheers.) The Commission considers that in the present circumstances abstention from voting on the part of the members will be a desertion of duty and an abdication of responsibility.

The Assembly was much agitated.

M. Edgar Quinet protested strongly against the acceptance of the preliminaries, as such conditions would destroy the present and future of France.

M. Bamberger, a Deputy from the Department of the Moselle, adjured the Assembly to reject conditions, and concluded his speech by declaring that the person who ought to sign the treaty was Napoleon III., whose name would be eternally nailed to the pillory of history. These words caused great excitement and recrimination between the Corsican Deputies and several other members of the House. M. Conti, formerly Chief of the Emperor's Cabinet, rushed to the tribune, and endeavoured, but in vain, to make himself heard. He uttered a few words, seeking to justify the Empire, but the agitation thereupon increased.

M. Bethmont then proposed that the incident should be closed by the Assembly formally voting the deposition of Napoleon III.

The President now suspended the sitting for a quarter of an hour, and the House resumed at 2.15 p.m.

M. Sarget moved that the Assembly should pronounce the deposition of the Emperor Napoleon, which had already been sanctioned by universal suffrage, adding, "that the Assembly declares him to be responsible for all our misfortunes—the ruin, the invasion, and the dismemberment of France." This expression was greeted with repeated unanimous and enthusiastic cheers.

M. Gavini (a Deputy from Corsica) endeavoured to speak, but was unable to obtain a hearing.

M. Thiers then ascended the tribune amid cheers. He said:—

Every one understands the reserve which we impose upon ourselves on account of the past; but why does this past itself come forward and show itself before the country, which desires to forget it? We have an energetic protest to enter. The Princes of Europe say that France desired the war. It was you (addressing the Bonapartist representatives) who desired it. (Loud cheering.) The truth remains and confronts you, and it is your punishment to be here to-day to witness the humiliation and the trial to which your faults have condemned us. You wish to speak of services rendered by the Empire to France. I beg the Assembly to hear you. We remember that we are not a Constituent but a Sovereign Assembly. (Prolonged cheers.)

The Deputies, with the exception of four or five, rose simultaneously and with one common accord to confirm the deposition of the Bonapartes.

Victor Hugo made an impassioned speech against a cession of territory.

M. Vacherot, in the name of several Republicans who intended to vote for peace, said he thought that in the present circumstances it was only possible to save France by peace, in favour of which he should vote, while, at the same time protesting against the right of conquest.

M. Louis Blanc spoke against the ratification of the preliminaries of peace, believing it possible to continue the struggle by substituting partisan warfare for war on a large scale. In conclusion, he made an appeal to Europe, declaring that if Europe did not arrest Prussia she would sign her own death-warrant.

General Changarnier, with much emotion, said he felt compelled to recommend peace.

M. Buffet read a declaration, signed by four members for the Department of the Vosges, stating that the impossibility of carrying on the war was sufficient justification for the treaty. Any act ceding territory under present circumstances would confer no right in the future.

M. Thiers again addressed the House, urging each Deputy to be calm, and to accept with manliness the responsibility of his decision. "We must," he said, "have the courage of our misfortune. Had there been a chance of continuing the war I should have spared myself the pain of signing the treaty, but necessity demanded it: it was a question of saving the future of the country."

MM. Brunet, Arago, and Millière, spoke against the ratification of the treaty.

The close of the debate was then called for, and the ratification of the preliminaries of the treaty of peace was voted for by 546 ayes against 107 noes.

After the vote, M. Keller, in the name of the Deputies for Alsace, the Departments of the Meuse and the Moselle, renewed the protest asserting the cession of territory to be null and void, and declaring that, one and all, they reserved to themselves the right of claiming to be united with France, for which they would always keep a place in their hearts and homes. M. Keller further stated that the position created by the vote no longer permitted them to retain their seats in the Assembly, as they could not represent a country ceded to the enemy.

The sitting was adjourned at 6.50 p.m.

The Assembly opened on Saturday at 2.40 p.m., rumours of disturbances in Paris causing great excitement among the deputies. M. Ducuin called upon the Assembly to send some testimony of its gratitude to the people of Belgium and England. The name of England called forth loud exclamations, which increased in intensity on the proposal being read, and shouts of "No!" applied to England were raised in all parts of the hall. One of the deputies protested against the proposal being read without notice being previously given to the President. Ultimately the resolution was rejected. A member rose and expressed his surprise that new prefects had not yet been named. He demanded that all the prefects appointed by the former Delegate Government of Bordeaux should retire into private life. M. Picard, in reply, upheld the doctrine of responsibility and liberty of action vested in the Government, and said that the personal claims of the existing prefects would alone be taken into consideration. A proposal was submitted to confer 100,000 hectares of the best land in Algeria upon natives of Alsace and Lorraine who may wish to remain French. This proposal will be examined by the Commission. A member of the Assembly then moved the impeachment of the Delegate Government of Bordeaux. M. Jules Simon urged the House not to enter into a course of recriminations and charges which might cause trouble and dissension in the country.

On Monday M. Louis Blanc brought in a motion, which he characterised as sad but inevitable, demanding that the members of the National Defence should be called upon to render an account of the way in which they had exercised their powers since the commencement of the siege of Paris until the capitulation. The motion was signed by MM. Victor Hugo, Quinet, Louis Blanc, Peyrat, Greppo, Schoelcher, Farcy, Floquet, Poignesu, Lockroy, and others. MM. Clemenceau and Tirard supported the motion. M. Delescluze demanded the impeachment and arrest of the members of the Government of National Defence, as guilty of high treason. M. Johnston and several deputies moved that all contractors having contracts with the Government should be compelled, under pain of forfeiture, to send in their accounts within three months. The Bureaux of the Assembly have appointed fifteen commissioners to examine and to report on the motion to impeach the former members of the Government of the National Defence. Several members declared on this occasion that before all it was necessary to perform the work of justice without regard to any personal consideration.

The most contrary opinions are current in regard to the proposed transfer of the seat of Government. Paris, Bordeaux, Blois, Fontainebleau, Orleans, Tours, Versailles, and St. Germain are named, but the proposals the most seriously discussed are for the Assembly to continue at Bordeaux, or to be transferred to Versailles, or to return directly to Paris. It is believed that the majority will vote for returning to Paris, otherwise the deputies of the capital will probably tender their resignation. M. Thiers has not expressed any decided opinion on the subject, but it is thought that he is personally in favour of returning to Paris.

THE EXCHANGE OF RATIFICATIONS.

The ratifications of the treaty of peace were exchanged on Thursday at Versailles. The following telegram was sent by the Emperor-King to the Empress-Queen:—

I have just ratified the conclusion of peace, it having been accepted yesterday by the National Assembly in Bordeaux. Thus far is the great work complete, which by seven months' victorious battles has been achieved, thanks to the valour, devotion, and endurance of our incomparable army in all its parts, and the willing sacrifices of the whole Fatherland. The Lord of Hosts has everywhere visibly blessed our enterprises, and therefore by His mercy has permitted this honourable peace to be achieved. To Him be the honour; to the army and the Fatherland I render thanks from a heart deeply moved.

This telegram was publicly read at Berlin amid salvoes of artillery and peals from the church bells.

In reply to M. Favre on Thursday, Count Bismark said that the German troops would evacuate Paris when he had received the formal deed of ratification from Bordeaux with the necessary signatures. At ten a.m., however, a special courier arrived from Bordeaux with the deed of ratification. M. Jules Favre then returned to Versailles with the document, and again demanded the immediate withdrawal of the German troops from Paris. Count Bismark sent a despatch, at about two o'clock, to General Vinoy, requesting him to send French officers to the Elysée to come to an understanding in reference to the evacuation, and the arrangements were soon completed.

A Brussels telegram says it is stated that the negotiations for the definitive treaty of peace between France and Germany will be carried on there between the 10th and 15th inst. *Le Nord* thinks that the French Delegates will be Comte de Chaudordy and M. Saint-Hilaire.

It is also reported from Brussels that Holland has proposed that, on the signature of the definitive treaty of peace between France and Germany, the European Powers should sanction the principle that, in time of war, private property at sea shall be respected. This principle should be first embodied in the treaty of peace, and then submitted for the adhesion of the other Powers. Austria supports this proposal. Holland is also said to have proposed an international convention, defining the character of contraband of war. This last proposal, however, is said to have little chance of being adopted.

The Deputies of Alsace have appointed a committee of four to defend the political and commercial interests of Alsace at Brussels during the peace negotiations. The members are MM. Tachard, Hartmann, Saglio, and Boersch.

THE GERMAN OCCUPATION OF PARIS.

Notwithstanding the popular excitement in Paris earlier in the week, the entry of detachments of the German army into the prescribed portions of the capital was on Wednesday quietly effected.

The march of the troops into the city was preceded by a review by the Emperor at Longchamps. Dr. Russell's letter of March 1 is devoted to a description of this grand military spectacle. It lasted from eleven to one o'clock. The Crown Prince received the King on the right of his line, and at the instant there crashed from end to end the dissonance of many bands playing what we call "God save the Queen." The force consisted of 30,000 men, and when the review was over they marched into Paris.

The actual entry of the troops into the city is described in great detail by several other correspondents. One of the *Times* writers, dating 8.15 a.m., says:—

As I write, the horses' hoofs are clattering under the window, and I see a young officer of German hussars galloping boldly up the Avenue to the Arc de Triomphe. He is a handsome-looking young man, on a magnificent charger, and the half-dozen men that follow him are stalwart, bronzed veterans, who look as calm and unconcerned as if they were on parade at Potsdam. Yet on both sides of the road are scattered groups of enemies, and just in front of the Arc is a crowd of spectators. Our young officer rides straight at them, and waves his sword to scatter them, which it does effectually. He cannot resist a slight flourish of it over his head as he spurs his horse over the chains and *débris* that bar the passage beneath the arch, and he and his men have bounded through it, and are coolly galloping down the Champs Elysées. So was Paris taken at eight o'clock in the morning of the 1st of March by a boy and six hussars.

The numbers rapidly increased, but the main body did not come in till after the review—much later in the day. In the course of the accounts furnished by *Daily News* correspondents respecting the earlier arrivals, we gather that—

The first Uhlan made his appearance at the Arc de Triomphe, and was soon followed by other Uhlans, and then by the main body of the occupying force. Not being able, as they seem to have expected, to pass under the arch, they turned down the Avenue des Champs Elysées. The space around the foot of the arch has been throughout the siege a favourite popular resort. From this site a good view of Mont Valérien is obtained, and it commands the entire Avenue of the Grand Army. At most times, therefore, considerable groups assemble there, but on Wednesday they were extremely thin, and composed chiefly of boys, a very few women, and about fifty men having the appearance of artisans on their way to their daily labour. Not a shout was raised by them, not a gesture escaped them, when the Uhlans appeared. . . . . Beyond the Palais de l'Industrie (says one correspondent) I came up with the first batch of the conquering heroes. One witness was an elderly gentleman in a very snuffy coat decorated with much that ought not to have been there. He looked with an air of blank indifference. I think he must have snuffed out all natural sentiment. His cry was, "And to think I have seen these brutes come into our Paris for the third time! Ah, it is enough to make one mad!" The ancient gentleman added for my information that he had belonged to the relic of the old Imperial Guard, distinguished as the Brigands of the Loire.

Another correspondent relates how a German detachment, after dashing about at will in the Avenue of the Champs Elysées, took up a position opposite to the Palace of Industry, where they stacked their arms and picketed their horses. Most of the men threw themselves on the ground, resting on their knapsacks, as if they were suffering from fatigue.

The Parisians who came to see them were not numerous. Most of them were of the lower classes, and looked on with perfect calmness. Some of them went up to the Prussians, gathered about them, touched them as if to see that they were living beings, examined their accoutrements, and entered into such conversation as was possible where few of the one nationality understood the language of the other.

Several incidents are related which throw light on the temper of the Parisians, that is of such of them as ventured out, and these seem to have been mainly of the lower classes. Dr. Russell characterises the crowds whom he saw as "half-sullen, half-curious." One Frenchman in his ire ventured to hit a German, slapping him on his helmet. The Germans made believe that they were preparing to fire. Instantly a panic seized upon the mob, and they fled like mice. On the night previous to the entry a correspondent of the *Times*, who had ordered his coachman to drive to La Villette, was surrounded by a mob, denounced as a Prussian spy, and had a narrow escape. Another correspondent was kicked severely because he was accosted by an old friend on the staff of General Kamecki, the commander of the army of occupation.

In accordance with announcement, the leading journals did not appear. There were but few people in the streets; all the shops and cafés were closed, and the windows were shut. The aspect of the city was most gloomy and mournful. A double line of sentinels prevented the people from passing the limits respectively assigned to the French and German troops. The women were conspicuous among the curious, and they expressed their admiration of the personal appearance of the German soldiers. It had been formally agreed that the German soldiers, while in Paris, should be allowed to visit the Louvre and the Invalides. Upon representations being made to them, however, the German generals relinquished their right to visit the latter building. The Emperor of Germany did not enter Paris, although it had been expected he would do so; but the Crown Prince of Prussia drove down the Champs Elysées in an open carriage on Thursday afternoon. Many officers of high rank also rode in with their staffs. The Avenue was crowded with spectators.

A profound gloom reigned over Paris on Wednesday night. Large crowds collected towards midnight near the Porte St. Denis, but the night passed off quietly. All the avenues in the Champs Elysées were strongly guarded by troops of the Line or National Guards. The sentries of the respective armies were generally about ten yards apart. The Place de la Concorde and Champs Elysées were crowded with Bavarian and Prussian soldiers, lounging about and amusing themselves. They behaved with the utmost propriety. French people passed between the lines without hindrance. Numerous outrages were perpetrated by the populace upon both men and women who were suspected of living in friendly relation with the Germans.

In a telegram from the correspondent of the *Daily News* with the head-quarters of the Crown Prince of Prussia we read:—"There are the German troops yonder in the Place de la Concorde, scattered in groups about the statues of the cities. They have not disturbed the immortelles and garlands with which the statue of Strasbourg has been adorned; nor have they taken off the black veil which the French have lately tied over its face. The German occupation takes the form of a triumphal bivouac in the heart of the enemy's capital; of something hurried and temporary. Paris is angry and sad."

A letter dated Friday says:—"The Germans are gone. The last of them passed under the Arc de Triomphe at ten o'clock this morning, and before ten o'clock the French gendarmerie was advancing slowly up the Avenue des Champs Elysées. As the one side withdrew the other side took possession of the abandoned ground. There were few people about, and no signs of excitement among those few, beyond an occasional groan or hiss when the Prussians who kept the roadway clear gave any one a push. The Parisian mob was hindered from coming to the scene of action by the pickets of French infantry in the Rue Royale and the Rue de Rivoli. It was when it seemed that the last regiments were about to pass under the arch that signs of trouble commenced. The people began to hiss and hoot, and throw stones, and a stray shot was fired. The result was a panic. The Germans began to handle their guns in a business-like manner, as if prepared to fire on the people, who scampered away like a flock of sheep. Gradually they stole nearer and nearer to the vast space round the arch, where there were still a few regiments waiting to take their turn of marching under the Arch of Triumph. At last there were no troops left to go through but the squadron of Prussian Dragoons who brought up the rear, and who guarded the head of the thoroughfare in the Champs Elysées. As the crowd seemed inclined to jeer, and might for all they knew mean mischief, they first of all turned upon it and dispersed it, with much waving of swords and prancing of horses. Before the mob could recover itself they cantered off at a smart pace, and disappeared with a shout under the arch. Almost before they had disappeared the French Chasseurs came up and followed in their wake to keep order. The crowd was on the whole very well behaved; and only a few lads of the notorious Parisian type seemed ready for disturbance, and the most they could do was to shout and throw stones from a safe distance."

The departure of the Prussians had an electrical effect upon the city. It seemed as though it had recovered, suddenly, from a mortal malady. The shops on the Boulevards were rapidly opened, the chairs were once more in position before the *cafés*, and people were before long sitting upon them and discussing the extraordinary chapter which had just been added to French history, and especially to the romance of their fair city, which seems to pay the penalty of its beauty in the vicissitudes through which it passes. One of the streets, the Rue de Berlin, has already been altered in name to the Rue de Richard Wallace.

Some disorders occurred after the withdrawal of the German troops from the city, and M. Picard issued an announcement on Saturday appealing to the inhabitants to put down these manifestations. Paris was relit with gas on Friday.

On Saturday some demonstrations occurred at the Place de la Bastille, at which the Government was denounced, and a determination was expressed to resist the reactionary party, which wished to "juggle away the Republic."

The Emperor will leave this week for Ferrières, reviewing Wurtembergers, Saxons, and Bavarian Army Corps *en route*. Fort Valérien and the Southern Forts will be evacuated on the 7th inst. and Rouen on the 12th, and the army will be over on the right bank of the Seine by the 19th of this month. The Crown Prince will remain still a few days here before proceeding to Meaux, on his way to Germany. French trains full of troops for Paris were coming from the South.

THE WAR INDEMNITY.

It seems that, allowing for the deductions to be made, the sum to be paid by France to Germany will be about 160,000,000*l.* or 170,000,000*l.*, to which, however, five per cent. interest will have to be added for the instalments that may be delayed between now and the end of 1873. An impression is general that France will decline no effort necessary to clear off the whole forthwith. 20,000,000*l.* is understood to be already forthcoming. One milliard (40,000,000*l.*) of the war indemnity is to be paid this year; two milliards in 1872; and the remaining two in 1873. Till all is paid Prince Frederick Charles, with 60,000 men, gradually reduced, will occupy Champagne.

The Frankfort advices indicate that, even in that city, the severity of the terms imposed upon France has created a bad effect. It was fully expected that Metz and Strasbourg would be kept, to shut the door against future invasion; but the exorbitant amount of the war contribution is "universally reprobated." Out of the 200 millions sterling, not only all the recent German loans, but the old ones too, could be paid off, and there would yet remain a large sum to be put into the treasury. It is added that there was the less necessity for such harsh conditions as Germany has, in a material sense, suffered very little by the war.

THE CZAR AND THE EMPEROR.

The Emperor of Germany has sent a telegram to the Emperor of Russia, announcing the signature of the preliminaries of peace. Prussia will never forget, His Majesty says, that she owes it to the Emperor of Russia that the war did not assume extreme dimensions. In reply, the latter says he has been happy to prove his sympathy as a devoted friend.

This telegram, says a Paris letter, has produced a profound impression of alarm and dissatisfaction among all classes, while the debates in the English House of Commons are quoted not merely in the Paris but in the provincial papers, as affording the only crumb of comfort to the country in its desolation.

NOTES AND INCIDENTS.

The Lord Mayor has forwarded to the papers a report from Colonel Stuart Wortley and Mr. George Moore, the agents of the Mansion House French Relief Fund, showing how the fund has been dispensed in the French capital. The Lord Mayor, in his letter, acknowledges the valuable assistance rendered by the Foreign Office and the Admiralty, and recognises the obligations under which the committee are to the newspapers for giving publicity to their proceedings.

The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg had ordered seventeen beds for his staff at the Palace of the Elysées, but they had to leave too soon for the beds to be used.

At the funeral of M. Kuss, the Mayor of Strasbourg, which took place on Friday, at Bordeaux, M. Gambetta made a speech in eulogy of the deceased. M. Gambetta said that though France was separated by force from Alsace, it was only for a time, and she would henceforth have no other thought but the deliverance of that province.

Cattle-plague is still increasing at Landerneau, 500 to 600 men being occupied in burying dead animals. It is said the infection communicates itself to human beings. Cattle-plague has also made its appearance amongst the beasts recently brought into Paris. More than one hundred have been killed as unfit for food.

It is announced from Versailles that a telegram published in certain London papers on the 28th ult. that the partial character of the German occupation of Paris was due to the intervention of England, is without foundation. The influence of England only bore upon the question of indemnity.

The *Journal des Débats* is informed that the law excluding from power Napoleon and his dynasty will be placarded in every commune in France.

Preparations have been made at Chiselhurst for the reception of the Emperor Napoleon. There are other rumours respecting his destination.

A special telegram from the Paris correspondent of the *Times* says that the King of Italy has written a letter to the German Emperor, expressing his surprise and disappointment at the hard terms exacted from the French, especially with regard to the cession of territory.

The *Telegraph* Paris correspondent says that at a meeting of the deputies from the various battalions of the National Guard in Paris, it was agreed that if the National Assembly continued to hold its sittings in any other city than Paris, a Republic of the Seine should be proclaimed.

With their wonted enterprise, the London Stereoscopic Company have brought out two additional illustrations of the siege of Paris—a photographed balloon letter, and a bill of fare which shows the singular animals which the Parisians were compelled to eat. As mementoes of an event which has now become historical, they cannot fail to be interesting.

The new German Imperial flag has just been decided upon, and is adopted already by Bavaria, Wertemburg, and Baden. It is *mi-parte* or sable, gules, and argent, and has for supporters the two Indians armed with maces of the Prussian crest.—*Globe.*

The sum total of the liabilities of the French Government is reckoned at nine milliards, or 360,000,000*l.*

It is stated from Berlin that the relations of Germany with the Luxembourg Government are entirely satisfactory, and all rumours to the contrary are entirely without foundation.

The French military prisoners in Germany, Belgium and Switzerland, are expected to return to France this week.

General Aurelles des Paladines has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the National Guards of the Seine.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

The Party of Disorder in Paris.—Last night (says a correspondent of the *Times*, writing from Paris on the 4th inst.), passing through the Place Vendôme, I observed an excited crowd rushing towards the National Guard post, and on inquiry found that three German officers had just been carried in severely bruised and wounded. They had arrived from Orleans by train in full uniform, unsuspectingly imagining that Paris was occupied, and free to be entered by German officers in uniform. They were at once pounced upon on getting out of the train. The chief of the station, instead of rescuing them and sending them in a carriage, handed them over to a dozen of the National Guard, who succeeded at last in reaching the Place Vendôme, but not until the populace had severely mauled, not merely the German officers, but the men who were trying to protect them. This love of tearing to pieces singly the men they have been afraid to fight collectively indicates a spirit of cowardice so great, that probably their efforts at revolution will not be very dangerous. The *café* on the Champs Elysées, which was attacked on the day of the Prussian entry, has since been gutted, and everything that was fragile has been destroyed by the vindictive mob, who were afraid to wreak their vengeance at the time, and there is scarcely an Englishman who has not some tale of ruffianism to recount. Indeed, the real fighting power of the lower part of the population seems only to have been developed now that peace is made. Last night a somewhat serious attack was made on the post of the National Guard at the Gobelin tapestry manufactory, which was invested by armed National Guards from the riotous quarters. Thirty howitzers were also seized by another party of the same sort on the ramparts, and carried off, together with their ammunition.

The March through the Champs Elysees.—The special correspondent of the *Times*, after mentioning the difficulties he had to overcome in order to get into the Champs Elysées, writes:—"At last, at the bottom of the Avenue Friedland, I succeeded in passing the charmed line, and saw, looming through the fog, the Arc de l'Etoile; but even before we could distinguish its outline the distant cheers of the German army reached us, a long, continued, unbroken roar, rising and falling like the waves of the ocean, and as intermittent. It was impossible to doubt what those cheers meant. Thirty thousand Germans were marching in triumph beneath the arch on which are chronicled German defeats, and making it ring with their shouts of victory. A line of German dragoons at the top of the avenue again barred our progress, these multiplied precautions being evidently necessary to limit as much as possible the crowd which was attempting to gather. At this moment the top of the avenue of the Champs Elysées and the open space near the arch were filled with troops waiting to pass through it, and a small but silent crowd was collected on its outskirts. Suddenly we were startled by a shot which apparently proceeded from the Germans, and caused some little emotion among the bystanders. It was evidently fired in the air, and might possibly have been an accident, but the episode was not reassuring. By degrees we reached the arch itself, and were witnesses of a spectacle which no one who was present, be he French, German, or neutral, can ever forget. The broken ground beneath the arch had been levelled and a good roadway made through it, and along this passed infantry, cavalry, and artillery—the faces of the men radiant with an exultation which it is impossible to describe. For this supreme hour they had endured and bled, but now the dangers and the hardships of the war had come to an end. Their faces were turned at last to the Fatherland, and their first step homewards was thus made the sign and pledge of their success. As the head of each battalion came under the arch, the mounted officers leading it reined up for a moment, cast one look up at the list of victories inscribed overhead, one glance back to their men, and then, waiving their helmets high above their heads, gave the signal for a ringing cheer. In a second every helmet was in the air; the horses, startled by the sudden roar, pranced and reared; their riders, carried away by the excitement, with heightened colour and flashing eyes, still waved their helmets, while the men strained their throats

with their shouts of triumph. It was the only occasion upon which I have seen the Germans indulge in military glorification; they fairly revelled in their triumph, and it was the more legitimate now, because in entering they had modestly gone round the arch, and because if there were Frenchmen present to witness their own humiliation, the Germans, by choosing a very early hour and closing up all the avenues, had done their utmost to confine the celebration of their triumph to themselves. There were, indeed, not above three or four hundred people present, and these were quite of the lowest class. At exactly ten o'clock the procession came to an end. The last cheer had been given, the last helmet waved; the cavalry pickets were beginning to close in from the rear, when a carriage and one horse containing three German officers in uniform, who were evidently non-executives, and had allowed themselves to be late, came up from a side avenue; in an instant the mob began to close in upon them and try to frighten their horse, so as if possible to cut them off, yelling, hissing, and pelting them with dirt. The occupants of the carriage kept their temper admirably, and beckoned to the dragoons to wait for them; in a moment more they were safe, but had they been five minutes later they would certainly have been murdered. Encouraged by this episode, and by the fact that the last dragoon had his back turned to them, the mob rushed through the arch, whistling and howling and closing in upon the retiring pickets. Finding themselves unnoticed, they were getting bolder, when half a dozen dragoons slowly faced about. In an instant the yelling canaille were flying in all directions. It required only half a dozen armed Germans to look at them to strike terror into their craven hearts. For abject cowardice, combined with refined cruelty, the last forty-eight hours have shown that a low Paris mob cannot be matched."

REVIEW IN THE BOIS DE BOULOGNE.—The military correspondent of the *Times* thus describes the review of the troops by the Emperor in the Bois de Boulogne:—"The troops were drawn up at first in two lines, each line being formed of battalions in close column. When the Emperor appeared on the ground and approached the troops, hearty cheers broke forth, but when he came close to them, and they received the order to present arms, there was silence among the men, and only a confused sound of music, as many bands at once played the anthem which we call 'God Save the Queen.' From line the battalions broke into column, and marched past in quick time. First came the infantry of the guard, for infantry always march past first in Prussian parades. The men were thickly bearded, and seemed warriors every one of them; as was said by some one not so much like soldiers as like well-made men in uniform. To all appearance the war has left their discipline untouched, and their dress was newer and in better trim than that of some regiments which marched past two days before. As each regimental colour passed, just flung out from its staff by the light breeze, the man who, following his father's example, has steadily made and improved the German army, always patiently waiting for this moment, long delayed, but come at last, raised his hand and saluted the imperial ensigns carried by those who have won him his purple. An officer remarked, 'The King'—he is King still to all Prussians—'knows perfectly well how to manage a parade. The Crown Prince does not. He does not love war.' The review was simple—only a rapid inspection and the march past in quick time. Each battalion, after passing the Emperor, who stood facing the grand stand, with his back to Paris, marched down towards the windmill, and then to its quarters on the other side of the Seine, without cheering or any demonstration."

SCENES IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.—The Bordeaux correspondent of the *Times* furnishes an interesting description of the scene in the National Assembly on the occasion of debating the preliminaries of peace. Concerning the deposition of the Bonapartes, he says:—"M. Target brought in a resolution, numerously signed, confirming the expulsion of Napoleon III. and his dynasty, and declaring him responsible for the ruin, invasion, and dismemberment of France. Almost the whole Assembly rose to acclaim this motion. Conti and Gavini (another Corsican) demanded to speak, and the latter got into the tribune and protested '*de toutes les forces de mon âme*' against the resolution. '*Les Corses s'en mêlent*,' cried Gambetta from his place. These were the only words he spoke during the whole long afternoon. Many were surprised, and perhaps disappointed, for it was thought the ex-Dictator would have improved the occasion to ventilate his eloquence. 'To the vote!' shouted the tumultuous Assembly, interrupting Gavini, who gave up the tribune to M. Thiers. The Chamber cheered him, and was instantly still. His power over it is really wonderful. He was evidently excited, his gestures were more vehement than usual, and he repeatedly brought down his fist heavily upon the cushioned board before him. 'Gentlemen,' he said, 'I propose to you a policy of conciliation and peace, and I hoped that all would understand our reserve with regard to the past. But when that past, the cause of all our misfortunes, rears its head before the country, we resume our rights. Do you know, sir,' he continued, addressing Conti or Gavini, 'what those princes say whom you represent? They say they are not the authors of this war, that it was France which would have it. *Eh bien! je leur donne ici le dementi le plus formel.*' While urging the Assembly to close the incident as the wisest and most dignified course to adopt, he declared his respect for the courage of the Bonapartists who thus stood forward to justify the master they had served. Finally, a vote was taken on Target's proposition. Six deputies only remained seated. All the rest rose to approve it by acclamation. The counter proof, as it is called, being taken, those six rose stoutly to signify their dissent. Before the treaty was voted M. Thiers ascended the tribune, and," the correspondent adds, "it was truly heartrending to witness the old man's grief and emotion. 'If I saw a single chance,' he said, 'of maintaining the struggle with success, never would I have imposed upon myself the great grief of signing this treaty. It is the greatest sorrow of my life. I understand M. Buffet's abstaining.' Here his voice was choked by agitation, and tears ran down his cheeks. I saw numbers of persons greatly affected, among them the President of the Chamber. There was a burst of sympathising applause. 'We must have the courage of our misfortunes,' said M. Thiers. 'I beg you not to force me to explain myself further. I ask the Chamber to vote loyally, according to its conscience and its heart, but, I implore you, no false patriotism, no weakness.' In a speech which he subsequently made, he said:—'As long as you are a nation of declaimers, you will be nothing; you will only become something by respect for the truth.' Wise words, which the nation of which he is now indisputably the foremost man will do well to lay to heart. The vote having been taken and announced by the President, M. Grosjean ascended the tribune, and, in a voice of deep emotion, read the collective protest of the Alsatian deputies against the decision which had just made over their province to Germany. The protest terminated by the resignation of their seats in the Chamber by those who signed it. This last mournful duty performed, the representatives of the departments lopped off from France left their places and walked slowly down the Chamber. Many mournful glances followed them, and many were the hands extended for a last farewell grasp. On reaching the threshold of the House, the Alsatians turned and bowed. The sacrifice was consummated."

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

THE POPE.—The correspondent of the *Telegraph* at Rome, in a despatch dated Thursday morning, contradicts the report, which has again been circulated, that the Pope is about to leave the Vatican. It has been decided that the Holy Father will remain as long as there is no appearance of imminent danger.

THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.—The *Observer* is informed that a satisfactory understanding has been arrived at between Sir John Rose and President Grant concerning the chief points which have to be submitted to the Anglo-American Commission. There was a meeting of the High Joint Commission on Saturday, at which the order of proceeding was arranged.

A DESCENDANT OF CROMWELL.—A Cincinnati paper records the death of Joseph Howard Cromwell, a lineal descendant of Oliver Cromwell. The deceased was formerly captain of an American merchantman, which in the war of 1812 became a privateer, and was captured by a British man-of-war. The captivity of Captain Cromwell was not of long duration. He then settled in Cincinnati, and was a hotel-keeper in that city for thirty-four years, retiring in 1862 to Yellow Springs, Ohio, where he died on the 31st of January, in the eighty-fifth year of his age, leaving children and grandchildren. It is stated that the deceased was a descendant of a grandson of Oliver Cromwell's son Henry, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and who settled in Maryland early in the eighteenth century.

THE AMERICAN FENIANS.—Symptoms of another split in the American Fenian camp have appeared in the resignation of Savage as "Chief Executive of the Fenian Brotherhood," and the entrance of "Colonel" John O'Mahoney, "Chairman of the Council," as *pro tem.* President, till the assembly of a Convention to ratify his appointment, or to elect some one else. The funds are no longer so abundant as they were. The cause of suffering France has diverted much of the money that hitherto found its way into the pockets of Messrs. Savage and Co. The prisoners who have been so much *fêted* at New York, have issued a proclamation announcing their intention of uniting all the Irish population of the United States in a grand organisation for the restoration of the freedom of Ireland, and inviting responses to this idea from Irish bodies.

THE PROPOSED INCREASE IN THE ARMY ESTIMATES.—A town's meeting, presided over by the Mayor, was held in the Town Hall, Birmingham, on Friday night, to consider the proposed increase in Army Estimates. The speakers were selected by four bodies—the Liberal Association, the Labour Representation League, the Birmingham Republican Club, and the Peace Society—all of whom approved the objects of the meeting. The first resolution was as follows:—"Believing that the present expenditure on our war establishments is more than sufficient if properly administered, to maintain their complete efficiency, this meeting condemns the proposal of Her Majesty's Government to add more than three millions to the taxation of the country as a waste of the public resources, and injurious to the social condition of the people." The second resolution stated that, "In the face of the avowal of Her Majesty's Government that we have, as a country, no dangers to apprehend, this meeting regards the proposed increase of a flagrant breach of the promise to secure economy in the administration of the public funds." These resolutions were carried, and it was agreed to embody them in a memorial to Mr. Gladstone.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD AND RELIGIOUS TEACHING.

The weekly meeting of the School Board for London was held on Wednesday afternoon in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall; Lord Lawrence in the chair.

A memorial, signed by 930 working men, was read protesting against Mr. W. H. Smith's resolution on the question of Bible-reading and religious teaching. The memorial protested against the Bible being read at all, because such a course would be wrong in principle; because in rate-paid schools it was unfair, both to the ratepayers and the Bible, that the latter should be introduced; because the reading of the Bible could not be acceptable to all; and because liberty was given to the board to support schools in which no religious instruction should be given. The memorialists further said that if the board passed Mr. Smith's resolution it would, at the very commencement of its labours, abandon the one Liberal clause of the Act.

The Rev. B. WAUGH then proposed an amendment, of which he had given notice, in the following words:—

That in schools under the management of this board the Bible shall be read without religious note or comment, with such exception as the Act provides.

In the course of a long speech he contended that it was not the duty of the School Board to provide religious teaching, and he characterised the motion as a most charming though Utopian scheme; charming because it was most desirable to obtain a plan acceptable to all classes, and Utopian because it was not to be supposed that the thirty-seven different sects in London could agree to one system of religious teaching. If Dr. Miller and Mr. Mackonochie, though under the Act of Uniformity, could not find a platform upon which to agree, was it likely the desk would be more fortunate than the pulpit? (Laughter and cheers.) Were inspectors to see that no religious bias was imparted? Were special officers to be created for the purpose? Or were the children to be made spies? (Cheers.) He denied the possibility of getting teachers to instruct children in religion without giving a bias to that teaching, and he urged that, if it could be done, it would be a most disastrous thing for the Christian Church, for it would be the means of bringing about a London School Board religion. He contended that to teach religion in this form would be a great hindrance to its progress, as it would be associated in the minds of the people with taxes, and taxes for religion were, he declared, regarded as robbery by those with whom this Board had to deal. He felt confident that if they entrusted the religious education of the young to the different religious bodies, those bodies would prove themselves equal to the task.

Mr. LUCRAFT seconded the amendment, and believed that the second provision of the resolution, giving power to the board to exempt schools from the general operation of the resolution, would lead to agitation. He argued that it would be quite possible to select a number of lessons from the Bible to which no person would object. The working classes were not opposed to the Bible; but when they saw learned lords and bishops deciding whether a candle was held an inch too high or too low, or whether a man should bow in a certain position, they certainly thought that that was rubbish.

The Rev. Dr. RIGG believed that there was a large Christianity which was not specifically denominational. He had a good deal of practical acquaintance with the religious difficulty which was never heard of from the teacher's Bible lesson. (Hear, hear.)

Viscount SANDON believed that if they attempted to select particular lessons for the use of schools it would create very painful discussion, and that they must leave the matter to be practically worked out by the teachers. The country had spoken out unmistakably in favour of religious education. It was not the intention of those who supported Mr. Smith's resolution that there should be any attempt to proselytise the children. He took this opportunity of protesting against the startling opinions which Professor Huxley had thought proper to deliver on the platform of the School Board. He was aware of the calm condescension and indulgent contempt with which Professor Huxley treated the opinions of those who did not belong to the little circle in which he lived.

Professor HUXLEY asked whether this was in order.

The CHAIRMAN considered the remarks a fair and reasonable rejoinder to Professor Huxley's speech.

Viscount SANDON would not wish to hurt Professor Huxley's feelings—[Professor HUXLEY: Not at all]—but when a new cut-and-dried scheme of theology was broached by a gentleman of great renown and great influence, he thought he was entitled to allude to it. He appealed to Professor Huxley whether, before there was anything else to put in the place of their venerable and much-beloved Christianity, it was not the part of good citizens and of the highest statesmanship to pause a little before trying to undermine the foundations of that religion which was professed by the most civilised countries in the world.

The Rev. Dr. BARRY believed that the effect of this amendment would be to admit the Bible to the schools, and starve it when it got there. It would be impracticable to carry out the amendment. The few persons who held extreme opinions must go out under the protection of the conscience clause.

Mrs. GARRETT-ANDERSON would vote against the

amendment entirely in the interests of the children. She felt very strongly that nothing could be more disastrous than to put a book so valuable as the Bible in their hands and to seal their minds while they read it, and invite them not to think. It seemed to her that it would not only be destructive of their intellectual quickness in approaching these subjects, but of that higher spiritual life which she hoped they would derive from it. In so far as children were accessible to unsectarian influences, to shut their intellects would quicken the sectarian spirit. The more they opened their intellects, and invited them to use the little logic at their command, the less they were likely to be sectarian as they grew up. Another objection to Mr. Waugh's amendment was that it would very much limit the choice of teachers. Many of the best men and women who felt keenly and conscientiously on the subject of religion would dislike to read the Bible without being allowed to explain it. She had more faith than some gentlemen in the common sense of the teachers. She did not believe that sectarianism was so strong and rampant as it was apparently supposed to be. There were people who were not primarily sectarian, but primarily Christian. (Hear, hear.) When it was said that there were thirty-seven sects in London, it was forgotten that there was a thirty-eighth class who belonged to no denomination whatever. Even, however, if parents were sectarian, children were not sectarian, and they could not with the greatest cleverness make them so unless they were brought up in a very narrow way. Children could stand a good deal of bias, and if they found out a Ritualistic bias or an Independent bias, they would throw it off and retain the essential part of the Christian teaching. (Cheers.)

Mr. TABRUM declared, as the result of his experience, that the people were in favour of Bible instruction, and this he held should not be left to Sunday-schools, for they, he contended, had their special work, and, besides, the children this board had to deal with required day-by-day teaching. He pronounced the objections made by the supporters of the amendment to religious teaching to be phantoms.

Mr. LANGDALE said it was impossible for him to support Mr. Smith's resolution unless some adequate provision were made for Catholic interests.

After some remarks from Mr. FREEMAN,

Professor HUXLEY observed that Lord Sandon had alluded to his speech at the last meeting in a manner which was not justified by anything that took place. When he intimated that he would support Mr. Smith's motion, he thought it right to say that it would carry into effect a great deal of religious teaching of which he did not approve, and that he supported it as a practical measure and not as what he would establish if the world were a *tabula rasa*. He repudiated the statement that there was anything contemptuous in his dealings with his adversaries. On that occasion he passed lightly over the fact, which was undoubtedly true, that there was a vast and increasing number of persons who did not base their theories of life upon those great ideas which had gone before; but he thought it right to mention it as a fact of which this board ought to take cognisance. These persons have been called a little circle, but if the noble speaker knew the influence it was exercising both in those country and on the Continent, he would hardly call it a little scientific circle. He would remind Lord Sandon that in some 1810 years ago there was a little circle in Palestine, of which a certain Roman governor, Pliny the Younger, spoke, in a report to the Emperor, as a small body, entertaining a *prava superstitio*. That body has since grown to be one of the largest bodies, and to exercise the greatest influence in the world. Persons now, in making their report to the Emperor, might speak of opinions as a small and *prava superstitio* which was destined to play a similar part in the world. When Lord Sandon spoke of sapping the faith of others, let him (Professor Huxley) remind him of what was once said of Keats the poet. Somebody said that he had been killed by an article in a review. "Well, if any man can be killed by an article," was the answer, "he ought to be killed." So, then, if any religion can be killed by a man, it ought to be killed.

The proposer of the amendment offered to withdraw it; but this was not allowed. On a division the numbers were—for the amendment, 8; against it, 41. The amendment was therefore lost. The debate was further adjourned, many amendments being still on the paper.

WALES.

Wales has been for the past three or four months, and is at the present moment, greatly agitated with the question of school boards. The people of Wales are anxious to secure for themselves the benefit of the Education Act; but, as is generally the case, the clergy and the squirearchy, with a few honourable exceptions, are in dead opposition to the people on the question.

Notwithstanding all this, school boards are being almost universally adopted, not only in the towns, but throughout the rural districts of North and South Wales. Last week a very hot contest took place in Llangollen—the sweet vale of "Jenny Jones"—when, spite of a most strenuous and determined opposition on the part of the vicar of the parish and his party, at the close of the poll it was discovered that two to one of the ratepayers had pronounced in favour of a school board.

The following letter, sent by a landlord in Merionethshire, near Dolgelly, is a specimen of the influence brought to bear by the landowners upon tenant farmers in order to thwart, if possible, the adoption in Welsh rural parishes of the provisions of the Education Act of last session:—

Bryn-y-Gwin, 16th Feb., 1871.—I shall be extremely displeased if you do not vote against a school board in Arthog parish, and do all in your power to oppose it. You must recollect that if you once impose it on the parish it can NEVER be got rid of. Be pleased also to remember that *you* will have to pay the rate, and I think you find the rates and taxes sufficiently heavy already. It will, however, always remain a charge on the farm, although you might leave. The land is mine, and from me you derive your vote. I think, therefore, that I have a right to defend my own property.—I am, your well-wisher and landlord, H. J. REVELEY.

LONGTON.—At a meeting of the school board for this town on Wednesday, a motion was unanimously passed, affirming the principle of compulsory attendance of all children between the ages of five and thirteen.

CROYDON.—The following gentlemen have been elected to this board:—Rev. Dr. Rule, Mr. F. Coldwells (working man), Rev. Mr. Roberts, Mr. F. J. Sargood, Rev. Mr. Blyth, Mr. Grantham, Mr. W. T. Malleson, Rev. J. G. Hodgson (vicar of Croydon), Rev. M. Ben-Oliel, Rev. Father David (Roman Catholic), and Mr. Frewer. The list comprises six Churchmen and five Nonconformists.

NEW EDUCATION CODE.

The following circular has been issued by the Central Nonconformist Committee at Birmingham to the Liberal members of Parliament:—

"Central Nonconformist Committee, Town Hall Chambers, New-street, Birmingham, March 1st, 1871.

"Sir,—We are directed to call your attention to certain provisions in the new code of regulations for the administration of the Parliamentary grant in aid of elementary education, which appear to us to be hostile to the development of a truly national system of education, and unjust to those religious communities which desire to be absolved from the responsibility of providing secular education for the people, and whose ecclesiastical organisation makes it exceedingly difficult for them to establish a sufficient number of day-schools to enable them to secure their fair proportion of the Parliamentary grant.

"Without raising the abstract questions involved in the original policy of the Government in making public grants, first, to assist in the erection of school buildings, and afterwards to assist in the maintenance of schools, under the control of private managers, and in the overwhelming majority of instances, connected with particular religious denominations,—it may be admitted that when these grants were first made, this may have seemed the only practical method of promoting, by a vote of public money, the diffusion and improvement of popular education.

"But the passing of the Elementary Education Act of last session provides for the establishment of a complete system of popular education, under the direct control of the ratepayers; it is, therefore, no longer necessary for Parliament to make use of the zeal of religious communities for the establishment of elementary schools; and, though the managers of existing denominational schools would have just ground of complaint if the Parliamentary grant were suddenly withdrawn from them, no valid reason can be alleged for stimulating the establishment of additional schools by a large increase of grants for maintenance.

"1. We therefore think that a strenuous effort should be made to resist the enormous increase in the grants which is now proposed by the Vice-President of the Privy Council.

"He proposes to increase the grant of 4s. per head on the average attendance throughout the year to 6s.; to increase the grant of 8s., subject to a satisfactory examination in reading, writing, and arithmetic, to 12s. The previous code granted 6s. 6d. a head for children under six years of age, present at examination; the new code proposes to grant 8s. a head for children above four years of age and under seven; or, if they are taught in a separate room, 10s. a head. For a successful examination in what are commonly called 'extra subjects,' the old code granted 1s. 4d. a head; the new code proposes to grant 3s. a head.

"It may be urged that the raising of the standards of examination, the new provisions with regard to the age at which scholars are to be presented for examination, and the increase of the proportion between the number of pupil teachers and the number of the children in average attendance, will render it more difficult to obtain the full grant, and more expensive to maintain the schools; but there is the strongest reason to believe, that though the proposed changes may crush out the less efficient of existing denominational schools, they will enable the great majority of them to dispense with voluntary subscriptions altogether.

"2. As the alleged reason for the present limitation of the grant (*i.e.* by its excess above, (1) the amount of school fees and subscriptions, or (2) the rate of 15s. per scholar according to the number in average attendance), is to prevent denominational schools from becoming independent of private subscriptions, it is unnecessary that there should be any similar limitation of the grant in the case of rate-supported schools.

"3. We think that an earnest attempt should be made to prevent grants from being made to denominational schools which are not already receiving aid from the Privy Council, or which have not already applied for aid.

"4. Some provision should be made to render it impossible for denominational schools to dispense with voluntary subscriptions. When Mr. Gladstone, on June 16, 1870, announced to the House of Commons the intention of the Government to propose a large increase in the grants, he intimated his conviction that a school, under private management, ought to derive part of its support from private voluntary contributions. He said:—

"I do not know whether the House is aware of the computations generally current as to the expenses of schools and the contributions to them. I believe that none of those computations can be said to be exact; but, speaking roughly, it is said that the expense of educating a child in an efficient secular school is 30s., of which it may be said one-third is now provided by the Privy Council, one-third from voluntary sources, and one-third by payment from the children. We think that if to the third which is now dispensed, the half of the second third were added, subject to the strict conditions which I have described with regard to secular education, the voluntary schools would have no reason to complain.

"The Government might be fairly called upon to act on the principle enunciated in this extract, and to reduce the Parliamentary grant by its excess above three times the amount of *bonâ fide* voluntary subscriptions necessary and contributed to meet the current expenses of the school. To secure the effective working of this provision, it should also be required that the balance-sheet of the school should be advertised annually in a local newspaper.

"5. In the new code, Mr. Forster proposes to include payments made to denominational schools by a school board, in the amount which must be locally raised in order to qualify the managers for receiving the grant. The effect of this will be to enable religious denominations to obtain from public money the whole cost of maintaining free schools. If a school board grants 3d. a head for the education of poor children in denominational schools, this will give the managers, counting forty-four weeks in the year, 11s. per annum for each child attending with sufficient regularity to enable them to claim the weekly fee. The financial working of a school receiving this aid may be seen from the following illustrations:—

	Per annum.
	£
500 children at 3d. per week from the rates	275
Parliamentary grant for 450 children in average* daily attendance at rather less than 12s. 3d. per head	275
	£550

"But the cost of maintaining a school, with 450 children in average daily attendance, need never be more than 24s. per head, or 540*l.* Where the school boards are willing so pay the fees for poor children, religious denominations may, therefore, open schools and receive from public funds the whole cost of maintaining them. This provision of the code should therefore be cancelled.

"We earnestly hope that you will support such amendments in the proposed code as shall bring it more into harmony with the policy that grants of public money should be made for the maintenance, not of sectarian schools under private managers, but of schools in which all the people have a common interest, and which are under the control of an authority directly responsible to the whole community. We believe that the country, generally, is rapidly arriving at the conviction that those persons who desire to teach their own religious creed should do it at their own cost, and not at the cost of the nation.

We are, yours very respectfully,
R. W. DALE,
H. W. CROSSKEY. } Hon. Secs.

Brighton has been definitively chosen as the site of the Easter Monday Volunteer Review.

VICTORIA (PHILOSOPHICAL) INSTITUTE.—One of the largest meetings of the session took place on Monday evening, the lecture-hall being full. Several new members and associates were elected, and donations to the library from Dr. Macvicar and Dr. Houghton, acknowledged. Mr. English's paper on "Biblical Pneumatology and Psychology," provoked a most interesting discussion, in which Mr. J. Bateman, F.R.S. Mr. C. Graham, the Rev. E. White, the chairman, and others, took part. At ten o'clock the meeting closed, and it was announced that on the 20th inst. a paper on "Some Curiosities of Ethnology," would be read.

DOMESTIC TRAINING.—At the last meeting of the Victoria Discussion Society, over which Lord Lyttelton presided, the following plan was launched:—"It is hoped to form a training school, to include the thorough teaching of a certain number of resident servants in the several duties of cooks, kitchen house, chamber and parlour maids, while instruction would be given to daily learners in the culinary and confectionery departments. Lectures also would be delivered on food, cooking, housekeeping, the laws of health, and other subjects, while practical lessons in the preparation and dressing of meat, poultry, fish, vegetables, &c., including the higher branches of the culinary art, would be offered to those ladies who wish to gain an insight into this necessary art. It is proposed to attach a ladies' reading-room and restaurant to this training institute, and the service will be entirely conducted by waitresses."

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* The difference between the weekly attendance and the average daily attendance on which the grant is made varies in different schools and in different districts. The cost of maintaining the school is always reckoned on the average *daily* attendance. For 450 children in average *daily* attendance, 530 or 530 children would be generally necessary in *weekly* attendance; this would make the amount contributed by the school board more than 275*l.*, and would therefore enable the school to receive a proportionately larger grant from the Privy Council.

Literature.

*HUGH MILLER'S LIFE AND LETTERS.**

Hugh Miller has lost somewhat of his due owing to the attempt his friends have made to claim too much for him. He has been called a genius of the highest order, boldly set on a level with Burns, and an elaborate comparison, or rather contrast, run up between them, as indeed Dr. McCosh does in the second of these volumes, in the course of some reminiscences of Miller, which are otherwise in very excellent spirit. Mr. Bayne, whilst he prudently eschews such extreme positions, now and then has recourse to an expression which sounds somewhat high-flown; but the memoir is, on the whole, discriminating, the lines are carefully drawn, and he is intent on doing no other person injustice through his laudable desire to elevate his own hero. But still, a hero Hugh Miller is in Mr. Bayne's eyes, although a little light is sometimes let in on the seamy side of his character. It is as though Mr. Bayne said, "Now, surely you will believe *all* that I have "got to say in his favour, when I can tell you of "that little fault so frankly." And accordingly we do believe all Mr. Bayne has to say; for he knows when to take us into his confidence. This is a rare merit in a biographer; for nothing is more effective in biographical writing than the power of sympathising with the readers as well as with the subject. Mr. Bayne has shown himself fully alive to this; and has written a memoir which, while it is solid and carefully elaborate, is yet light and full of varied interest. His style is well fitted for such work, his descriptions being uniformly powerful and picturesque. The picture of Hugh Miller's birthplace at the opening, brings Cromarty and its people very vividly before the imagination, with its odd mixture of highland and lowland, and the smack of the sea-salt blown over all before the whistling east wind.

As to Hugh Miller, he deeply impresses us by the fantastic mixture of elements in his character that never rightly cohere together. The burly forces of the man's life pull as little one way when he is grey-haired as when he was a boy hungering for knowledge, yet defying authority, hating school, playing truant to wander in wood and on beach, and drawing knife upon his uncles when they would restrain him into orderly behaviour. By the whole strength of his spontaneous life, he was a rebel, an asserter of individualism; and the rare significance of his career, as it seems to us, lies in the self-watchfulness, generated by an ever-expanding and ambitious intellect, which, while it sharply took note of the ways of the world, constantly drew little things so close to it as to shut out more generous prospects. With the large sympathies of a poet, he yet showed himself somewhat of a bigot; with a heart so warm that it could have embraced all the weak and helpless of human kind, he was yet so ill-balanced that often he could not stoop to secure his well-won advantages, even by the honestest means, to enable him to be as helpful as he might have been. He was a Puritan against his original instincts; and, whilst he could attach himself to a cause as for life and death, he could only fight for it so long as the battle was at close grips. This, we take it, is the explanation at once of his firm devotion to the cause of the Free Church of Scotland, and of his many difficulties in the trying position as editor of the *Witness*, the Edinburgh Free Church organ. His whole life was a long fight against original tendencies, which at last avenged themselves, and proved too strong for him.

His extreme shyness and diffidence, along with a confirmed habit of self-analysis, gives an air of scepticism to much that he does. Were it not that he is held firmly in the leash of his sympathies, he would be utterly hopeless, helpless, and despairing. Much as he is attracted by some of the working men he met while labouring as a mason, yet he has none of those high-flown hopes for the elevation of the class which Liberals are wont to indulge in and to parade. Mr. Bayne informs us that he was even doubtful of the "newspaper as an educating "agency." From first to last he is a divided man,—a strong thread of brooding egotism is often the only medium of unity; and the tragedy of his life lies in the way in which he has continually to pronounce sentence of execution against the finer elements of his nature in order even to let him fight his battle bravely. In this he is the true Puritan. He was a Free Churchman, but no voluntary; he was by instinct a poet and a Tory; circumstances made him a politician, for which he was never intended, and a Liberal, when in his heart he despised much that Liberals delight in.

Of his peculiar shyness, in which a proud independence was the main ingredient, Dr. McCosh gives us these apt illustrations:—

"He was withal wonderfully shy and unwilling to seem to be seeking the favour of any man. A little incident may show what I mean. Dr. Guthrie and I had been walking together on the day on which he had asked him to meet me at dinner; and when we were at some distance we saw him approaching the door. 'Let us run,' says Dr. Guthrie, 'for if he goes to my house, and finds me not in, he will set off'; and we did run to catch him. I remember another circumstance illustrating the same point. I was talking to him of the *littérateurs* of Edinburgh, great and small. He did not seem to have much intimacy with them. We talked of Lord Jeffrey, of whom he spoke kindly and respectfully. 'He expressed,' he said, 'a wish to make my acquaintance when I came to Edinburgh; but as he did not call on me, I did not see my way to call on him, and we have not had much intercourse.'"

Though he was peculiarly self-inquisitive, he was at the same time peculiarly self-deceiving. He was so intent on watching the present movement of his mind, that when for a moment he lifted up his eye to take a wider survey everything seemed dim and hazy before it. But what he lacked in clear perception, imagination readily supplied, and this, indeed, furnishes the unconscious charm of his books. Hence, though he is intensely autobiographic, perhaps no one who gives the impression of clearness and consistency was ever more self-contradictory as to his former moods or the influences which formed him and made him what he was. We have striking instances of this in those cases where Mr. Bayne presents us with several versions of the same incident, written at different periods of his life. This is justification sufficient for the appearance of Mr. Bayne's biography, in face of the fact that, not only did Miller formally write his autobiography up to his assuming the editorship of the *Witness*, in "My Schools and "Schoolmasters," but infused much of the autobiographic element into all that he wrote. There is a good deal of significance in his joke to his friends that they must be content to receive the *Witness* as a periodical letter from him. There was a great deal of personal confession in his writing always. But after a lapse of time, later impressions were all unconsciously involved with those of a former period; and if a romantic atmosphere was thus gained, some confusion as to the real circumstances was inevitable. He kept up a large correspondence, and never seemed to grudge time and care in epistolary composition; but he kept copies of most of his letters, and carefully classified them, so that he might have a ready index to the varying phases of his past self.

His remarkable inconsistency is therefore the more noticeable. For example, with regard to his early scepticism, we find him saying in one place, decidedly, that when a youth, he had been an atheist.

"A boy atheist is surely an uncommon character. I was one in reality, for, possessed of a strong memory and an early taste for reading which my uncles had stored with religious sentiments and stories of religious men, I was compelled, for the sake of peace, either to do that which was right, or, by denying the truth of the Bible, to set every action, good and bad, on the same level; and I had chosen the latter as the more free and pleasing way."

This was written in 1828, when he was twenty-seven years of age, and he wrote thus to the same effect, sometime later:—"'Tis true I was "one of the most acute though one of the most "prudent of freethinkers. I will not arrogate "to myself the powers of a Paine or a Hobbes, "yet, setting conceit apart, I think I may say "that with my natural acuteness and acquired "knowledge at the time I deemed the historical "part of the Bible a collection of fables, and its "doctrinal a mass of absurdities." But afterwards he modifies his view of his youthful self in the light of later convictions, and gives to his then religious condition the new attraction of subtle and conflicting moods:—

"My religion was a strangely incongruous thing. It took the form, in my mind, of a mass of undigested theology, with here and there a point developed out of due proportion, from the circumstance that I had thought upon it for myself; and while entangled, if I may so speak, amid the recesses and under cover of the general chaotic mass, there harboured no inconsiderable amount of superstition, there rested over it the clouds of a dreary scepticism, I have sometimes in looking back on the doubts and questionings of this period, thought and perhaps even spoken of myself as an infidel. But an infidel I assuredly was not: my belief was at least as real as my incredulity, and had, I am inclined to think, a much deeper seat in my mind. But wavering between the two extremes—now a believer, and anon a sceptic—the belief usually exhibiting itself as a strongly-based instinct—the scepticism as the result of some intellectual process—I lived on for years in a sort of uneasy see-saw condition, without any middle ground between the two extremes, on which I could at once reason and believe."

Now, this latter extract, in spite of its being written in evident honesty, describes Miller's later religious condition rather than his earlier one. He unconsciously imports the feeling of later days into that of former ones. He had found escape from the torment of superstitious fears within the narrow circle of a closely defined dogmatic position; but he never subdued the scepticism of his intellect, as is proved by the severe restrictions he had to put upon his more native tendencies. He drew his dogmas so near to him as to shut out all view of what had most affinity with his own instincts; and he was incessantly harassed with fears, which his geology, of course, tended to breed and to deepen. Hence, he never wrought in the free spirit of the man of science at all; but rather in the spirit of the Christian apologist, determined to make his way to a foregone conclusion. Even where his imagination has freest flight, it is still bound to a narrow spot, like a bird, ascending to its limit so quickly that the chain is only momentarily lost sight of in the gleam of the sun; for he is then most intent upon *compelling* his facts into bearing witness. What he himself said of Lamarck may be truly said of him; "he "had a trick of dreaming when wide awake and "of calling his dreams philosophy." Not that we fail to appreciate the body of new fact which Hugh Miller brought forward; we are only here speaking of his special tendency which arose out of the prominence that imagination had in his nature and to which his dogmatism denied free exercise. What could be more significant in this light than the following anecdote which Mr. Bayne gives near the close of the work:—

"In conversation, as in his books, he was sensitively orthodox. I once spoke with enthusiastic admiration of that famed vision of Jean Paul's, in which the author, with a view to symbolising the horror of atheism, introduces Jesus Christ looking up into a blank universe, one vast hollow eye-socket, emptied of its eye, and wailing for His Father. Miller would see in the piece nothing beyond the expression of a lofty Unitarianism, and maintained that Jean Paul meant to deny the divinity of Christ. His Unitarianism might be more spiritual than that common in England, but Unitarianism it was. Mrs. Miller and I took the opposite view, arguing that it was legitimate in the imaginative dreamer to introduce Christ, as the representative of created being, and to illustrate the ghastliness of atheism by letting us see Him, a homeless orphan, filling with moans the black hollow of the universal night; *but Miller held to his point.*"

Now, if there was one faculty of mind native to Miller, it was imagination. He thus writes of himself:—

"The faculty of my mind which was first developed was imagination, and the development was neither partial nor gradual. Before I had attained my fifth year I had become the inhabitant of two distinct worlds, the true and the ideal; and the images of the latter appeared to me scarcely less tangible or less clearly defined than those of the former. My mind presented me with a vivid picture of every incident which I was told."

In Hugh Miller we have a salient example of the repressive tendency of the Ultra-Calvinistic theology on certain of the finer types of character whose self-control is still sufficient to enable them to tyrannise over themselves and to subdue their innate impulses. Much was lost to Scotland in the fatality that made Hugh Miller a party-man.

His love of nature was passionate, pure, and disinterested; and did much to keep him simple and true in the midst of influences with which he but ill-fitted to cope. His social instincts were strong; and yet his extreme reserve and suspiciousness made society irksome to him. He had no acquaintances, only friends; and he never made confidants of his closest friends of later years as he had done of his friends of the Doocot Cave. Nature was full of living voices for him; communion with her was, as he himself has said, a "social solitude," in which his friends were brought nearer to him than they ever were in actual fellowship. His heart was warm; but he feared the "spying eye," and sometimes causelessly suspected it. He could not abide patronage or condescension; and his only affectation arose from a fear lest he should ever be taken for anything but stonemason turned editor; and he is occasionally even blunt in his reminders of it. But his love of nature, and this wistful escape from contact with men, even through his eager claim for their suffrages, have combined to give to his style no little "distinction."

As a literary artist, therefore, his claims are high. He has the charm which only accompanies disciplined fancy. And sometimes his glances are far-reaching, and his characterisations of men steeped in imaginative light. Nothing could well be more apt than the way in which he concluded his estimate of Lord Brougham:—"His large intellect seemed based on an inferior "nature—*it was a brilliant set in lead.*" And in the light of that "go," which a certain organ finds so admirable in Brougham's own account of his early escapades, certainly Miller's caustic characterisation loses none of its force. Earl Grey is thus decisively hit off:—"He was un-"questionably a very able man, but he did not "possess one of those gigantic minds which

* *The Life and Letters of Hugh Miller.* By PETER BAYNE, M.A. In Two Vols. (Strahan and Co.)

"mould and fashion the destiny of nations. *He "resembled rather an index-hand attached to the "great political machine than its moving power.*" Again, of Sir Walter Scott's compositions he writes:—"They resemble what he himself so "much loved to describe—the rich and fantastic "Gothic, at times ludicrously uncouth, at times "exquisitely beautiful." And this of Burns is worth quoting:—"He taught the Scottish "people to stand erect; so that they have lost "the habitual stoop."

Then take this of Dr. Candlish. "The "doctor's intellect resembles the beautiful "sorceress in the modern epic, who sat spin-"ning in one of the winter caves of Lapland, "when ice and winter reigned all around, and "drew so fine a thread, that only when the "flame glanced upon it, as the sunlight glances "upon the slim line of the field-spider, was it "visible to the eye."

This, again, is good of Chalmers:—

"Washington Irving has compared some of our great writers whose works have fixed the language, to huge trees flourishing beside the bank of a river, that cast out an immense extent of closely reticulated rootage, and thus preserve around them the loose soil, which, save for the protection they afford, would be washed out by the hollowing eddies and swept to the sea. Chalmers formed such a tree, and secured the institution in which he had taken deep root, and which sheltered under his shadow, against the disintegrating wear of the current."

Occasionally his remarks are shrewdly direct and practical. This is a specimen:—

"I have a good deal of faith in the military air, when, in the character of a natural trait, I find it strongly marking men who never served in the army. I have never seen it borne by a civilian who had not in him at least the elements of the soldier."

His illustrations are for most part singularly beautiful and original, as in this instance:—

"We have remarked, in travelling through the highlands of Scotland, that almost all the first-class hills of the country take the character of hills of the average size, with other hills placed, as if by accident, on the top of them; and there is a very lofty poetry that attains to its greatest elevation on a similar principle. The imagination, in the plenitude of its power, is seen piling, like the giants of old, mountain on the top of mountain."

Then, in opposition to the dictum which has gained considerable currency—that Scotchmen have no humour—Miller's genius in happy moments literally bubbles over, breaks into quiet silvery mirth. The spirit in which he describes his surroundings in the bothies where he worked in the North, and the oddities of his fellow-masons in the South, are vivacious, and touched with the gleam of true sympathy. But his humour is delicate rather than broad; he gives you the point in the clearest of words, and with a sober smile, but he never breaks out into a guffaw at his own cleverness. And in his descriptions, as he himself has well said, he never appeals to the senses, but to the sentiments.

Hugh Miller is undoubtedly one of the most remarkable of recent Scotchmen; and Mr. Bayne's memoir, in spite of some faults, deserves to take its place among the few specimens of standard biography. His one aim was evidently to give a faithful picture of the man; and, if sometimes he has failed, it was rather because he kept details too steadily before his mind, than that he in any case neglected them. And he has been singularly happy in his selections from Miller's unique letters, which are, in some instances, of inestimable value, as throwing light upon a very interesting and strong, though somewhat morbidly-constituted, mind.

*DARWINIANISM.**

Mr. Darwin's observations, researches and speculations have placed him in the very highest rank among Naturalists. Whatever may be the ultimate verdict concerning the group of theories that is summarily expressed by the word Darwinianism (a word which has now as recognised a meaning, and as general and classic an acceptation as Platonism, Epicureanism, or as the terms Baconian, Newtonian, and Cartesian) yet assuredly Mr. Darwin will be remembered in future times as one of those commanding intellects who have opened new realms of speculation, and founded new epochs in science. In the work before us Darwinianism culminates, and the explanations given in previous works of the origin of species, and of the changes produced in animal organisation by the varied operations of the laws of selection, receive here their extremest application. Even when the exposition of these laws was confined to the lower races, such bold theorising concerning the origin of species could not be shut up in the halls of science or in the schools of philosophers. The general public soon became stirred by such exciting speculations, and hastened with more or less knowledge and skill to share in the discussion. It was felt that these theorizings could not stop short at the lower races, but that man must be included in their scope. Mr. Darwin now boldly brings the races of men under the keen analysis of his philosophical methods, and, as might be expected, assigns to man as an animal, as a part of the great system of nature, a history similar to that of other animals. He claims for him a descent from inferior but related forms of life,—and places him in the Catarrhine group of animals; a splendid monkey with the addition of a higher reason, and therefore with new capabilities of intellectual and social development. Perhaps Mr. Darwin speaks too confidently of the acceptance of his theories among competent judges, when he assumes the almost universal assent of the best naturalists to his conclusions. That man is a glorified ape we must be allowed to regard at present as an open question. It is manifestly so in general society. We are not yet so accustomed to grub at the roots of our genealogical trees as to be able to reach such a result without some emotion. We may accept the Plantagenets and the Normans, or the Patriarchs and Antediluvians, as our progenitors with some satisfaction, but we shudder as we pass these *en route* to some wandering primitive savage, or some non-human ape. In mercy to our pride of birth and blood, which is after all a creditable sort of pride, we must beg that this question may be an open one a little longer.

We may be allowed, however, to assume that, as a scientific question, the Book of Genesis settles nothing at all about the natural history of the animal we call man. Whoever Adam may be, it seems to us that his history represents the advent of the divine element into humanity, and not the entrance of humanity itself upon the surface of the earth. Scripture grandly ignores man till the breath of a divine life is breathed into him, and leaves us free to range the earth in search of traces of the human or simply animal occupants of the planet before this last and highest development was attained. From this time humanity became a unity—"one blood"—whatever tributary streams might have existed in separate channels antecedent to this event. It seems to us that there is a strong analogy between the advent of Christianity among the religions of the world, and the birth of the Divine life in the earliest history of man. Christianity affirms all the scattered and isolated truths half articulately uttered by other faiths, and blends them into one. And so, if it is affirmed by science that the Pre-Adamite man was derived by one or many streams of descent from half-human savages or non-human lower types of animal life, yet it is no less true that these lower roots of humanity are effectually buried in the earth, and that, since the crisis of human history which is represented by the word or the fact which we are told to call *Adam*, there is a Divine glory cast upon humanity which nothing in the past can efface, and which blends all the races of man into one indestructible unity.

If this be granted, we really see no good reason why we should fall into nervous tremors when science traces the undoubtedly strong analogies between the human form, in its structure and development, and those of lower animals—even if the conclusion deduced from these analogies should be exactly what Mr. Darwin affirms. If such be our origin, we are disposed to say, not "So much the worse for "the man," but rather, "So much the better "for the ape." We do not think this alternative has been sufficiently estimated by either the advocates or the opponents of Darwinianism. One of the greatest puzzles which both metaphysicians and theologians have had to encounter is that suggested by the instincts of animals. Who is there that has not again and again puzzled over the question what is instinct? What are those half or quite spiritual attributes in animals which excite our wonder and interest, and even bring them within the circle of our human sympathies and attachments? Is that faithful companion whom we have learnt to regard with almost brotherly affection a piece of animated dust, or an immortal being like ourselves? Now, if Darwinianism be true, we may infer that some of the glory and prerogative of man is reflected back upon the inferior animals, and that they may be supposed to share his destiny as far as they are capable of doing so. The contrary notion that any possible alliance with lower forms of life is a degradation to man, is, we think, utterly shallow and unphilosophical. It is always safer to interpret the lower by means of the higher, than to pursue the opposite course and bring the higher to the level of the lower. As in theology it is safer and wiser to descend from God to man, so in biology it is sounder reasoning and deeper wisdom to apply the facts and laws of human nature to explain the analogous phenomena of lower levels of life, than to surrender our high ideal of humanity when we find hints and suggestions in inferior races which seem to connect them with ourselves. Therefore, if science traces our genealogy to some Catarrhine monkey, we would by no means be abashed, but frankly accept the distinction for the monkey, while we cling to all that we know of what is highest and best in man. The very repugnance with which we are apt to regard the grotesque caricatures of humanity which we see in the Zoological Gardens seems to involve an unconscious and secretly resisting recognition of the Darwinian theory when it is thus obtruded upon us in such an offensively dogmatic style in these hideous distortions of the human form, and much of the popular revolt against Darwinianism is nothing more than a reflection of the instinctive aversion which is excited by a visit to the monkey-house. This surely is unjust. Scientific conclusions should not be bolted down whole, like a disgusting pill, or they will probably be speedily ejected with nausea and violence. Persons who merely sniff and smell at Darwinianism, and decide for or against it rather by their nose than by their intellect, cannot possibly arrive at any conclusion about it worthy of respect. On the other hand, it may be taken as some indication in favour of Darwinianism that it invests the most grotesque and fantastic characteristics of the lower animals with a new meaning and a higher interest, and while detracting nothing from man, adds to the worth of the inferior races.

Mr. Darwin is not a mere speculator. Indeed, he is primarily an observer, and his books are a storehouse of the most various and interesting facts in all departments of natural history. It is quite possible to find abundant instruction in his last as in all his former works, quite apart from its reasonings, in the study and contemplation of the multitudinous facts by which he illustrates or supports his conclusions. The most important argument in favour of his theory of man's descent from inferior races, is derived from the striking analogies between the structure and development of the human body and that of animals belonging to groups in near relation to man. Mr. Darwin argues that there are certain peculiarities in man's structure that require to be accounted for—useless and apparently meaningless organs or modifications of parts; anomalous appearances of peculiar forms not at present characteristic of man at all, corresponding to what is known in other races as reversion to earlier types; passing phases in embryonic development not related to any permanent structures in the mature animal. When these peculiarities of structure are found in other animals, they are generally explicable by reference to homologous forms in allied species, and indicate a relationship which is clearly explicable, whether the explanation is accepted or not, by the ultimate identity of the related species.

Are these facts of nature, Mr. Darwin asks, to receive a different interpretation in man to that which they bear in other animals? Are they ensnaring and mendacious freaks of nature only intended to mislead us? Geology asked the same question once, and has obtained a satisfactory reply. Mr. Darwin "pauses" for the same reply in his department.

In former volumes Mr. Darwin has essayed to show how, by processes of "natural selec-"tion" species may gradually change their forms and habits, and yet retain traces of their old condition. In the present he endeavours to shew what share sexual selection has had in modifying races; or how circumstances which determine the pairing of animals gradually fix themselves as variations on the original stock. The argument therefore for the descent of man from other races is not to be taken by itself: it only emerges as a further application of laws which are copiously illustrated in inferior animals.

Mr. Darwin in his argument assumes that the intellectual and moral nature of man differs only in degree, and not in kind from that of the lower animals. This is, we think, the weakest part of his theory. It is moreover quite unnecessary as a link in his chain of reasoning, and is logically not deducible from his premises. We think it would be quite fair for naturalists to draw what conclusions they like, or what they fairly can, from an examination of the bodily structure of man, as well as from all the appetites, instincts, passions or tendencies that are distinctly to be correlated with animal structures by a large induction among all varieties of animal life. But in the spiritual phenomena of humanity we cannot help feeling that there is that which requires a science of the supernatural in order that it may be explained. A speaking,

* *The Descent of Man, and Selection in Relation to Sex.* By Charles Darwin, M.A., F.R.S., &c. Two vols. (London: Murray, 1871.)

reasoning animal, endowed with a conscience, and with a perception of the Infinite and Divine, is separated by many of what Swedenborg calls "discreet degrees" from all animals not so endowed, and whatever may be the history of his bodily organisation he soars above it, and claims higher affinities than any which natural history can define. Here the supernaturalist steps in and shows that as in the ascending series of life, the reptile steps forth into a finer element than the fish has ever discovered, while the bird soars into an element which to the reptiles and fishes is an unapproachable expanse. So the birds themselves are left behind by man as the highest of the mammalia when he takes a new and hitherto unknown flight, and learns to move and breathe in the boundless ether of infinite and absolute realities. Thus each of the ascending orders from fishes to mammalia is introduced into an element unknown to the lower forms.

We do not forget that there are such things as flying fish and reptiles,—and we are willing to allow that here and there we see flashes of intelligence among the lower races which are almost like an ascent into the higher ether of humanity. But, besides claiming for an analogy only what it is worth, we believe that the qualities that belong to humanity are at least as far removed from anything that naturalists have been able to define in the lower animals, as the air is from the water. The real lesson that Darwinianism might teach us, according to this analogy, is that as the fish does yet breathe the air which the water in which it lives holds in solution, so is there a real connection between the highest intelligence of man and the lowliest instincts of inferior animals, and that each higher rank of life finds that the divinest life it has realised does yet interfuse and embrace the lower which has not learnt to apprehend it. But what that connection is we hardly think a science of nature can explain. That must be left to a new science which we hope soon to see fairly recognised, the science of the supernatural—the science that evolves the laws which are implied in all the higher experiences of man, all that raises him above lower forms of life, and above himself as a mere result of ordinary laws of evolution; all that makes him in any possible sense of the word a supernatural being.

Meanwhile, in all sincerity we wish Mr. Darwin God-speed in his inquiries and speculations. He is such an earnest seeker after truth that he can calmly await the development of human knowledge and opinion, and commit his views to the safe custody of futurity. He has himself well remarked, and with this we take our leave of him, that—"False facts are highly "injurious to the progress of science, for they "often long endure; but false views, if supported by some evidence, do little harm, as "every one takes a salutary pleasure in proving "their falseness; and when this is done, one "path towards error is closed, and the road to "truth is often at the same time opened." Vol. ii., p. 385.

BRIEF NOTICES.

What Saith the Scripture? Three Reprinted Essays on Election, Eternal Punishment, and Promised Restoration. With a Preface, Explanatory and Defensive. By HENRY DUNN. (London: Simpkin, Marshall and Co.) It must be gratifying to Mr. Dunn that public attention is so awakened to the topics with which his name is associated that there is a will for the republication of these papers. Their issue now is timely, and we wish for them a large circulation and careful study. Like most of his writings, they are distinguished by candour; the candour which seeks to form correct opinions and weighs evidence carefully, as well as the more common candour which shows itself in courageous utterance and open speech.

Molochology not Theology. Penang Sermons. By JAMES ABERIGH-MACKAY, B.D., Senior Chaplain at Meerut, &c. Published at the request of the Protestants at Penang. (London: Trubner and Co.) The title of this volume might lead readers to expect a series of controversial sermons, probably of the broadest type. Instead, we have a number of plain, instructive, and earnest discourses, worthy of the title "Evangelical" in the best sense of the term. They are not learned nor eloquent: that which distinguishes them is the constant exposition of the character of God as loving and righteous, without any of the hesitative sense of inconsistency which many orthodox divines display in dealing with these subjects. We are glad that the "Protestants "of Penang" are able to hear such preaching.

Counsels to Young Students. Three Sermons preached before the University of Cambridge, at the opening of the Academical Year 1870—1871. By C. J. VAUGHAN, D.D., Master of the Temple. These sermons are exactly what they are called—Counsels to Students. They are wise with tender suggestion; but do not bear the impress of powerful or individual thought. There is a pensive equableness about them, which suggests a retired rather than an active life, while, notwithstanding, the great problems of the time, which most disturb young men, are scarcely if at all touched. Now and then Dr. Vaughan throws valuable light on the sacred text by his new renderings.

Messrs. Cassell and Co. have sent us three of their completed volumes of periodical issues, each of which have their own especial recommendation. *The Book of Birds*, which we have more than once noticed as the separate numbers have appeared, is a handsome volume, fit for the drawing-room table. But, however attractive to children the pictures may be—(and what can appeal more successfully to the young than these representations, some of them beautifully coloured, of bird-life?)—the book is rather one for ornithologists, and is prepared by no less a person than Mr. T. RYMER JONES, from the text of Dr. Brehm. *The Popular Educator*, Vol. VI., contains a series of lessons, elementary and advanced, in almost every conceivable branch of education, commercial, scientific, and technical. *The Household Guide*, Vol. II., must surely be a *pièce de résistance* to the orderly housewife, embracing as it does such subjects of household interest as cooking, medicine, pastimes, fancy-work, farming, gardening, &c. *Lilliput Lectures* and *The Boy in Grey*, both reprints from Messrs. Strahan's magazines, we may take the opportunity of noticing in a group, at some future time. We have still a great number of minor publications, to which we cannot altogether omit reference. *Stories of the Italian Reformers*, from the French, by Mrs. CAMPBELL OVEREND (Oliphant and Co.), is intended for young readers. *The Establishment:* a Satire by an Archdeacon (J. C. Hotten), is a rhyming tractate against the Establishment, written by one who knows, from personal observation, what abuses cling to that venerable institution. *Laxton's Builder's Price-Book*, Fifty-fourth Edition (Kelly and Co.), is a standard work of reference in all questions relating to the price of labour and materials. Messrs. Kelly and Co.'s name supply a guarantee that the work is well done, and adapted with care to the requirements of the present day. *Faith Harrowby; or, the Smuggler's Cave*, by SARAH DOUDNEY (Sunday School Union), and *The Wish and the Way*, by the Author of "The Diamond Wreath" (Oliphant and Co.), are religious tales of the common order. *Misread Passages of Scripture*, Second Series, by the Rev. J. BALDWIN BROWN (Hodder and Stoughton), consists of reprints from the *Pulpit Analyst* of some thoughtful and suggestive papers on misinterpretations of Scripture, the character of which we have more than once spoken of at length. *Gems from the Coral Islands*, by the Rev. WILLIAM GILL, Ninth Thousand (Elliot Stock), we need only mention as a new edition. The following we must acknowledge without comment:—*A Manual for Young Christians*, by EDWARD DENNETT (Elliot Stock); *England's Curse and its Cure*, by the Rev. J. WALTER (Elliot Stock); *The Book of Psalms*, New Translation, by CHARLES CARTER (Yates and Alexander); and *Cowper's Poetical Works*, Globe Edition (Macmillan and Co.)

Miscellaneous.

Mr. Arthur Helps has collected and revised for immediate publication his admirable "Conversations on War and General Culture," which appeared in the *Contemporary Review*.

The University boatrace has been fixed for Saturday, April 1st. Only three steamers are to be allowed to follow the boats—these steamers being under the management of the Boat Clubs of the two Universities.

On Thursday night an explosion of firedamp took place at one of the collieries of the Ebbw Vale Iron and Coal Company, Monmouthshire. The explosion injured three men, but no less than nineteen of their companions fell victims to the choke-damp while searching for them.

INSURANCE COMPANIES.—The Albert Reconstruction Scheme was before Lord Justice James two days last week. On Thursday the Lord Justice expressed his regret that, owing to legal difficulties, he was unable to give effect to it. At the same time, he thought it pre-eminently a case for special legislation, in order to stop the frightful costs of the pending liquidation of the Albert and its associated companies in the Court of Chancery. It was mentioned by Sir Roundell Palmer that of fifty-seven insurance companies in liquidation in Chancery, some of which had been undergoing that process for fifteen years, not one has yet been completely wound up.

POPULARITY OF THE ROYAL WEDDING.—Among the proofs of this are the immense number of prints, &c. An enterprising printseller has (says the *Daily News*) had the courage to depict the Princess and the Marquis enjoying a promenade together. This work of art is repeated in so many proportions that we suspect it must be exceedingly popular. In addition to the various compliments implied in such effigies and illustrations, we must reckon the delicate homage conferred on the young couple by the dedication of countless waltzes, quadrilles, and galops to their union. Of course, "Marquis of Lorne" ties and "Marquis of Lorne" hats are inevitable.

SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC.—At a meeting of the Metropolitan Asylums Board on Saturday, reports were read showing that there were 129 smallpox patients in the hospital at Stockwell, 301 at Homerton, and 455 at Hampstead. It was unanimously resolved to appropriate the old workhouse at Islington to the purpose of a convalescent hospital for 200 patients. On the same day a deputation of gentlemen connected with the medical profession held a conference at the Health Department of the Privy Council with Dr. Simon, the medical officer of the Government, with whom was Dr. Seaton, the Chief Inspector of Vaccination. Various practical questions in relation to vaccination, &c., were discussed.

Gleanings.

Mr. Griffin, C.E., who made proposals to the Admiralty for raising the Captain, has been informed that if he should make the attempt his arrangements will not be interfered with.

Sarahsville is the name of a thriving village in Illinois, where a ball recently ended in a free fight, in which five men were shot, one of them fatally.

A gentleman who was asked to respond to the toast of woman, declined, on the grounds that woman was able to speak for herself, and any man who undertakes to do it for her will get himself into trouble.

The Registrar of Killin (Scotland) mentions that an old bachelor, who died at the age of ninety-one years "five or six years ago, cut six new teeth, which he said were quite serviceable and as sharp as lancets."

The *Elgin* (Illinois) *Gazette* says the following notice has been published in the Exchange:—"Died—After a short illness, yesterday, my wife, leaving behind her three infant children. In the hope that her poor soul is with God, I beg to inform my customers that my store will be as well furnished as formerly, having confided my business to my principal clerk, who is extremely intelligent and as well versed in the business as the deceased herself. N.B.—Fresh corned beef just received."

PROGRESS OF MEDICAL SCIENCE.—We heard of a boy the other day who accidentally swallowed a silver half-dollar. They gave him warm water and tartar-emetic, and antimonial wine, and poked their fingers down his throat until the boy thought he would throw up his toe-nails. After a while, a doctor came along who understood such cases. He administered a small dose of patent medicine, and in less than ten minutes the boy threw up the half-dollar in five-cent pieces. Science is a great thing.—*Elgin (Illinois) Gazette.*

A HONEYMOON BY PROXY.—There was a brilliant wedding in Sullivan County, New York, the other day, and all parties accompanied the happy couple to the depot, where the new husband tenderly bade his wife farewell for the time, and she started off on a wedding tour with her uncle. The gentleman's business would not permit his absence at this season of the year without incurring possible losses and losing important business opportunities.—*New York Times.*

IRELAND IN THE GOOD OLD TIMES.—Many years ago a gentleman, having set foot for the first time in Ireland, repaired to an hotel for something to eat, and was accommodated with a roast fowl. He was proceeding to eat it when his plate divided with a sharp crack, and the wing to which he had just helped himself flew up to the ceiling. Soon afterwards an excited waiter rushed into the room, crying, "He's safe, he's safe!" "Who's safe?" inquired the bewildered traveller. "Misther O'Musgrave, sir," said the waiter in explanation; "the captain fired in the air!" It thus became apparent to the gentleman that a duel had been fought in the room beneath, and without stopping to finish his repast, he ordered his luggage to be packed, and left Ireland immediately.

A SINGULAR STORY.—The following story appears in "The Life and Times of Lord Brougham, written by Himself," just published by Messrs. Blackwood and Co.:—"A most remarkable thing happened to me—so remarkable that I must tell the story from the beginning. After I left the High School I went with G——, my most intimate friend, to attend the classes in the University. There was no divinity class, but we frequently in our walks discussed and speculated upon many grave subjects—among others, on the immortality of the soul, and on a future state. This question, and the possibility, I will not say of ghosts walking, but of the dead appearing to the living, were subjects of much speculation; and we actually committed the folly of drawing up an agreement, written with our blood, to the effect that whichever of us died first should appear to the other, and thus solve any doubts we had entertained of the 'life after death.' After we had finished our classes at the college, G—— went to India, having got an appointment there in the civil service. He seldom wrote to me, and after the lapse of a few years I had almost forgotten him; moreover, his family having little connection with Edinburgh, I seldom saw or heard anything of them, or of him through them, so that all the old schoolboy intimacy had died out, and I had nearly forgotten his existence. I had taken, as I have said, a warm bath; and while lying in it and enjoying the comfort of the heat after the late freezing I had undergone, I turned my head round, looking towards the chair on which I had deposited my clothes, as I was about to get out of the bath. On the chair sat G——, looking calmly at me. How I got out of the bath I know not, but on recovering my senses I found myself sprawling on the floor. The apparition, or whatever it was, that had taken the likeness of G——, had disappeared. This vision produced such a shock that I had no inclination to talk about it, or to speak about it even to Stuart; but the impression it made upon me was too vivid to be easily forgotten; and so strongly was I affected by it, that I have here written down the whole history with the date, 19th December, and all the particulars, as they are now

fresh before me. No doubt I had fallen asleep; and that the appearance presented so distinctly to my eyes was a dream, I cannot for a moment doubt; yet for years I had had no communication with G——, nor had there been anything to recall him to my recollection; nothing had taken place during our Swedish travels either connected with G—— or with India, or with anything relating to him, or to any member of his family. I recollected quickly enough our old discussion, and the bargain we had made. I could not discharge from my mind the impression that G—— must have died, and that his appearance to me was to be received by me as a proof of a future state." This was on December 19, 1799. In October, 1862, Lord Brougham added as a postscript:—"I have just been copying out from my journal the account of this strange dream: *Certissima mortis imago!* And now to finish the story, begun about sixty years since. Soon after my return to Edinburgh, there arrived a letter from India announcing G——'s death! and stated that he had died on the 19th December!"

NOTICE.—*All announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage-stamps.*

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGE.

GEORGE—BLIGH.—March 4, at St. James's, Muswell-hill, by the Rev. J. Browell, M.A., William Henry W. George, of Streatham Common, to Harriet Newell, third daughter of Samuel Bligh, of South Villa, Upper Norwood, Surrey.

DEATH.

EVANS.—March 3, at Thorneloe House, Worcester, Edward Evans, Esq., J.P., in the eighty-second year of his age. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's *Gazette*.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, March 1.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£35,996,640	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	3,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	20,996,640
	£35,996,640		£35,996,640

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities (inc. dead weight annuity)	£12,923,416
Rest	3,674,212		
Public Deposits....	9 150,650	Other Securities ..	24 755,500
Other Deposits	22,565,874	Notes	12,638,290
Seven Day and other Bills	745,547	Gold & Silver Coin	672,077
	£50,989,283		£50,959,283

March 9, 1871. GEO. FORBES, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Never at Fault.—In all irritations of the skin, sores, ulcers, burns, and scrofulous enlargements of the glands, Holloway's Ointment presents a ready and easy means of cure, which never disappoint the most favourable expectations. It manifests a peculiar power in restraining inflammation, cooling the heated blood, and checking all acrimonious or unhealthy discharges. Whilst the Ointment thus acts locally, the Pills are no less remarkable for their power in improving the general condition and habit of the body, which renders the cure complete and permanent. Under the genial influence of these potent remedies the puny infant becomes the robust child; the pale and emaciated regain colour and rotundity, and the dyspeptic eat freely without fear.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, March 6.

The supply of English wheat was short this morning, and moderate from abroad. We had a steady market, but less activity in the trade, and the advance of 1s. per qr established during last week was maintained both for English and foreign wheat. Flour was unchanged in value. Beans are without alteration in prices. Peas were the turn dearer. Indian corn made 6d. per qr. advance. Barley sold freely and at rather more money, compared with the quotations of Monday last. Of oats we were again without any arrivals from abroad, and prices have further advanced 6d. per qr since this day week. At the ports of call we have large arrivals. Last week's quotations are supported, but demand is to-day less active than last week.

CURRENT PRICES.

	Per Qr.		Per Qr.
WHEAT—	s. s.	PEAS—	s. s.
Essex and Kent, red	— to —	Grey	37 to 40
Ditto new	51 57	Maple	43 46
White	— —	White	36 40
,, new	55 59	Boilers	36 40
Foreign red	52 56	Foreign, boilers ..	37 38
,, white ..	55 58	RYE	36 38
BARLEY—		OATS—	
English	30 33	English feed	24 26
Chevalier	35 40	,, potato ..	29 35
Distilling	34 37	Scotch feed	— —
Foreign	33 35	,, potato ..	— —
MALT—		Irish black	21 24
Pale	— —	,, white	21 26
Chevalier	— —	Foreign feed	22 26
Brown	49 54	FLOUR—	
BEANS—		Town made ..	47 50
Ticks	37 40	Best country hald.	40 43
Harrow	40 44	Norfolk & Suffolk	19 40
Small	— —		
Egyptian	38 39		

BREAD, London, Saturday, March 4.—The prices in the Metropolis are, for Wheaten Bread, per 4lbs. loaf 7½d. to 8d. Household Bread, 6½d. to 7d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, March 6.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 6,201 head. In the corresponding week in 1870 we received 7,730; in 1869, 13,072; in 1868, 1,971; and in 1867, 11,725 head. The cattle trade was moderately active to-day, though the increased supplies of beasts on sale had the effect of lowering values. In the sheep market a fair amount of animation prevailed. There was a good show of English beast and a full proportion of foreign. The quality and condition of the animals were good, the market being above the average as to character and actual weight of meat. The attendance of butchers was good, but sales could only be effected at a decline of fully 2d. per 8lbs., the extreme top price for choice Scotch heifers being 5s. 6d. per 8lbs. Large coarse beast were neglected. The number of sheep in the pens was limited, but their condition was good. Sales progressed steadily at the full rates current on Monday last—namely, 6s. to 6s. 2d. per 8lbs for sheep in the wool, and 5s 4d. for shorn. Lambs changed hands steadily at about 8s. per stone. Calves were in better demand. Pigs were unaltered in value.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3 0	to 4 10	Prime Scuthdown	5 10	to 6 2
Second quality	4 0	4 4	Lambs . . .	0 0	0 0
Prime large oxen	4 10	5 2	Lge. coarse calves	3 8	4 4
Prime Scots, &c.	5 4	5 6	Prime small . .	5 0	6 0
Coarse inf. sheep	3 4	3 8	Large hogs . .	3 6	4 0
Second quality	4 2	4 6	Neat sm. porkers	4 6	5 2
Pr. coarse woolled	5 0	5 8			

Suckling calves, —s. to —s., and Quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 25s. each.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, March 6.—Increased supplies have been on sale here to-day, at our quotations. The import into London last week consisted of 468 packages from Hamburg, 8 from Rotterdam, and 26 from Harlingen.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef . .	3 0	to 3 4	Prime ditto . .	4 6	5 0
Middling ditto .	3 4	3 8	Veal	5 0	5 4
Prime large do. .	4 6	4 8	Large pork . .	3 0	3 8
Prime Scots . .	4 10	5 0	Small pork . .	4 0	4 8
Inf. mutton . .	3 8	3 10	Lamb	6 6	7 6
Middling ditto .	4 0	4 2			

PROVISIONS, Monday, March 6.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 122 firkins butter and 3,013 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 24,528 packages butter and 1,687 bales bacon. The foreign butter arrived last week sold at irregular prices, according to qualities:—Normandys, 120s. to 150s.; Jerseys, 120s. to 136s.; Dutch, 142s. to 144s. The bacon market further declines 1s. to 2s. per cwt., which caused more business to be transacted; best Waterford, 62s. on board.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Saturday, March 4.—We have experienced during the past week a slight renewal of business with Paris, the imports consisting of lettuces and endive, which we expect will soon increase under the influence of fine spring weather. Heavy arrivals of common apples still come to hand, and are quite a drug, at low prices. Asparagus, seakale, cucumbers, French beans, and round potatoes from Bermuda, as well as home-grown frame kinds, are freely supplied, and are ample for the wants of the trade. Spring radishes are just making their appearance amongst the home supplies, none having as yet been received from France. General prices rule at about former rates. The flower trade is now getting more animated, and supplies of hyacintha, tulips, lily of the valley, cyclamens, pelargoniums, azaleas, cytisus, are plentiful. There are also a few good roses, orchids, &.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, March 6.—The improved character of our trade noticed in our last report has been fully maintained by the transactions of the past week. All classes of hops have attention, and finer sorts are held firmly for higher figures. The advance in the foreign market, noticed in our last, is well maintained and a good demand exists, especially for the choicest grades. Latest advices from New York report a dull market. Mid and East Kents, 2l. 0s., 3l. 10s., to 7l. 0s.; Wealds, 2l. 0s., 2l. 16s., to 3l. 15s.; Sussex, 1l. 15s., 2l. 5s. to 3l. 10s.; Farnham and country, 3l. 15s., 4l. 15s., to 5l. 12s.; Olds, 1l. 0s., 1l. 15s., to 2l. 10s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.—Monday, March 6.—Full average supplies of potatoes have been on sale. Sales have progressed slowly at about late rates. Last week's import was confined to 64 bags from Malta, 16 from Hamburg. English Shaws, 80s. to 110s. per ton; English Regents, 60s. to 90s. per ton; Scotch Regents, 65s. to 90s. per ton; Rocks, 60s. to 75s. per ton.

SEED, Monday, March 6.—There was an improved demand for English cloverseed, and all fine qualities brought high prices. American samples were still purchased for France, and the best sorts were rather dearer. Trefoil realised former rates steadily. There was no change to quote in the value of either white or brown mustardseed. Canaryseed realised former rates. Large hempseed sold on former terms. Tares were taken off to a good extent at higher rates generally. Large Brunswicks are much wanted. Now that the navigation is open, supplies of cloverseed and tares may be expected from Hamburg, as well as tares from the Baltic ports, and the first arrivals will no doubt command a quick sale at good prices, particularly for large Brunswick tares.

OIL, Monday, March 6.—For linseed oil there has been a steady inquiry, and values have been well maintained. Rape has been fully as dear. Other oils have been quiet.

TALLOW, Monday, March 6.—The market has been steady. Y.C., spot, 45s. per cwt. Town tallow, 42s. 6d. net cash.

COAL, Monday, March 6.—Market heavy at last day's rates. Seaforth Wallsend, 15s. 6d.; Hettons ditto, 17s. 6d.; Hettons Lyons ditto, 15s. 3d; Haswell ditto, 17s. 6d.; Hartlepool Original ditto, 17s. 6d.; ditto South ditto, 16s. 6d.; Tunstall ditto, 15s. 6d.; Holywell Main, 16s; Tees, 17s.; Wylam West, 16s. Ships fresh arrived, 36; left from last day, 14; total, 50. Ships at sea 10.

Advertisements.

A CERTIFICATED MISTRESS REQUIRED for an INFANT and MIXED SCHOOL, twelve miles from London.—Address, Miss MacKennal, Berrylands House, Surbiton, Surrey.

WANTED, at EASTER, by a YOUNG LADY in her 24th year, a SITUATION as COMPANION, or to Assist a Mother in the Care of her Children. A Christian family preferred.—References as to respectability, &c., sent on application to H. E M., Post-office, Bourne, Lincolnshire.

ARCHITECTURE.—To PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—A London Architect has a VACANCY for TWO PUPILS, who would be GUIDED IN THEIR STUDIES, not left to themselves to learn the profession by the mere routine of office work.—For terms, apply by letter to M. J., 23, Finsbury Circus.

PARK CHAPEL, CAMDEN TOWN.

A SERVICE will be held on WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 22nd, to commemorate the TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY of the Rev. J. C. HARRISON'S entrance on his duties as PASTOR of the Church in Camden Town. There will be a Social Meeting in the School-rooms, 134, Grove-street, at a Quarter before Six o'clock, and a Public Meeting in the Chapel at Seven o'clock, at which the Rev. THOMAS BINNEY will preside. No formal invitations will be sent either to ministers or to old friends and former members, but they will be cordially welcomed if they are able to attend. Mr. Harrison will preach with special reference to the occasion on Sunday, March 19th.

MONEY.—LOANS Granted, from £100 to £3,000, at 5 per cent, repayable over three years, on Personal Security and Life Policy effected with the WEST of ENGLAND INSURANCE CO. (Established 1807).—Apply to J. CROCKER, Agency Superintendent, GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE. Agents wanted

HIBBERT TRUST.—TWO SCHOLARSHIPS will be AWARDED on this Foundation after the next Examination, provided the two Candidates are declared by the Examiners to be duly qualified. The NEXT EXAMINATION will be held at UNIVERSITY HALL, GORDON-SQUARE, LONDON, on MONDAY, TUESDAY, and WEDNESDAY, the 27th, 28th, and 29th days of November, 1871.

Candidates must furnish satisfactory evidence of age, graduation, and other points, the particulars of which may be obtained on application to the Secretary of the Trust; and the names and addresses of all Candidates must be sent to the Secretary, at University Hall, on or before October 1, 1871.

HENRY P. COBB, Secretary.

University Hall, Gordon-square, March 2, 1871.

CAMBRIDGE EXAMINATION FOR WOMEN.—LONDON CENTRE.

The NEXT EXAMINATION will be held on JULY 3rd, 1871. Candidates must give notice of their wish to enter by March 15. Information as to Preparatory Classes, &c., will be given by the

Hon. Sec., Miss E. BONHAM CARTER.

Ravensbourne, Beckenham.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

Mr. COOKE BAINES, Surveyor and Valuer, begs to INFORM his Friends that he has REMOVED from 106, Cheapside, to No. 26, FINSBURY-PLACE, MOORGATE-STREET, E.C., where all future communications are requested to be addressed.

January, 1871.

BONUS YEAR—SPECIAL NOTICE.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

ANNUAL INCOME, steadily increasing, £230,355.
ASSURANCE FUND, safely invested, £1,707,769.

The NINTH BONUS will be declared in JANUARY, 1872, and all With-Profit Policies in existence on the 30th June, 1871, will participate, so that Persons who complete such Assurances before June 30th next, will share in that Division, although one Premium only will have been paid.

Report and Balance Sheets, Forms of Proposal, and every information, can be obtained of

GEORGE CUTCLIFFE, Actuary and Secretary.

13, St. James's-square, London, S.W.

PERPETUAL INVESTMENT and BUILDING SOCIETY, 16, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.—Persons desirous of borrowing money are invited to peruse the revised Tables of this Society, which offer facilities for the obtainal of house property at the lowest possible rate. Amount advanced since 1851 exceeds £800,000.

JOHN EDWARD TRESIDDER, Secretary.

MILL HILL SCHOOL, MIDDLESEX.

HEAD MASTER—

RICHARD F. WEYMOUTH, Esq., D. Lit. and M.A., Fellow of Univ. Coll., Lond.; Member of the Council of the Philological Society, &c., &c.

SECOND MASTER—

J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., M.A., Queen's Coll., Oxford; Double First in Moderations, and 2nd Class in the Final Classical School; Scholar (B.A.) of Trin. Coll., Camb., 14th in 1st Class in Classical Tripos, and 1st Chancellor's Medallist, 1868.

ASSISTANT MASTERS—

A. H. SCOTT WHITE, Esq., B.A., Prizeman in Anglo-Saxon and Early English of Univ. Coll., London.

JAMES A. H. MURRAY, Esq., F.E.I.S., Member of the Council of the Philological Society, one of the Editors of the Publications of the Early English Text Society, Author of "The Dialect of the Southern Counties of Scotland," &c., &c.

JAMES NETTLESHIP, Esq., B.A., Scholar and Prizeman of Christ's Coll., Camb.; 2nd Class Classical Tripos, 1866.

For Prospectuses and further information apply to the Head Master, at the School, or to the Secretary, the Rev. R. H. MARTEN, B.A., Lee, S.E.

CONTINENTAL EDUCATION.—42, Kensington-gardens-square, W. The Misses SHEDLOCK (diplomées) assisted by resident French and German Governesses, and experienced Professors, RECEIVE a limited number of BOARDERS, to whom they offer all the comforts of home and a complete education on the Continental systems. Reference, Rev. J. Shedlock, M.A., 7, Blomfield-street, E.C.

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CONDUCTED BY THE MISSES MIALL.

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German	Mdlle. Hottinger.
Music and Singing . . .	J. Saville Stone, Esq., Associate, Royal Academy.
Drawing and Painting .	J. Hoch, Esq.
Dancing and Calisthenics	Mdlle. L'Anglée.
Chemistry . . .	Dr. Albert J. Bernays, Professor of Chemistry at St. Thomas's Hospital, London.
Arithmetic	Mr. J. Hepworth.

The above branches of education are taught exclusively by the Masters assigned to them. The general English education is under the immediate direction of the Principals and a competent staff of Governesses.

Terms forwarded on application.

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Attendant Professors.

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The Misses Howard aim to secure for their Pupils a sound literary and intellectual culture, refined manners, together with a healthy Christian and moral training.

Prospectus, with references and copies of Examination Papers, on application.

HALF TERM will COMMENCE THURSDAY, March 9th.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—EXTRAORDINARY and COMBINED ENTERTAINMENT. PROFESSOR PEPPER ON THE WAR, AND THE DESTRUCTIVE IMPLEMENTS USED THEREAT! MR. GEORGE GROSSMITH, Jun., gives THE YELLOW DWARF, every Evening—Entertainment by Mr. R. D. DAVIES, Premier Ventriloquist, entitled THE FUNNIEST of FUNNY FOLKS! MADAME BOUSFIELD'S GRECIAN STATUARY in White Marble.—New Ghost Entertainment. Admission to the whole, One Shilling. N.B.—Professor Pepper will commence his ASTRONOMICAL LECTURES on Thursday, the 2nd March, at 2.15, and continue them every Thursday at the same hour.

CHOICE FLOWER SEEDS for SPRING, 1871.—Twelve beautiful Varieties for open garden and pot culture, including Aster, Balsam, Ten-week Stock, with descriptive catalogue and amateur's guide. Complete 1s., post free 14 stamps.

"Extraordinarily cheap packets."—Lloyd's Weekly News, Feb. 19, 1870.

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DANIELS BROTHERS, Seed Growers, Eaton, Norwich.

LADIES' BOOTS for the SEASON.—Kid Walking Boots to button, or elastic, 16s. 6d.; Enamelled Kid, beautifully made, 21s.; Soft and Pretty House Boots, 5s. 6d.; Morocco Slippers, 3s. 6d. Illustrated Catalogues post free, with notice of convenient arrangements for country residents.

THOMAS D. MARSHALL, 192, Oxford-street, W.

FINE FLAVOURED STRONG BEEF TEA at about 2½d. a pint.

ASK FOR LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT of MEAT, requiring Baron Liebig, the Inventor's, Signature on every jar, being the only guarantee of genuineness.

SOUP! SOUP!

In ten minutes, from 8½d. to 11d. per pint, concentrated, pure, nutritious:—Pea, Julienne, Carrot, Chesnut, Green Pea, Harricot. Whitehead's Solidified Soup Squares, sold in one-dozen boxes at 8s. 6d. and 11s. a dozen, by all Grocers, Italian Warehousemen, and Chemists, and Wholesale of Copland and Co, Travers and Sons, Preston and Sons, Cross, and Blackwell, and E. Lazenby and Son.

As supplied to the Sick and Wounded.

COAL.—GEORGE J. COCKERELL and COMPANY, Established 1833.—Best Coals only.—Cash, 25s. G. J. C. and Co. sell no other than the best Wallsend Coals, which they believe to be the cleanest, the most durable, and the cheapest in the end for all domestic purposes. Vendors to Her Majesty, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh.—13, Cornhill; Eaton Wharf, Pimlico (office next to the Grosvenor Hotel); Purfleet Wharf Earl-street, Blackfriars; Sunderland Wharf, Peckham; Durham Wharf, Wandsworth (Office, 108, High-street); High-level Station, Crystal Palace; also at Brighton at local prices.

COALS.—LEA and CO.'S PRICES.—Hetton or Lambton Wall's-end, by screw steamers and railway, 24s.; Hartlepool, 23s.; best Wigan, 22s.; best Silkstone, 22s.; new Silkstone, 21s.; Clay-cross, 22s. and 19s.; Primrose, 20s.; Barnsley, 19s.; best Derby, 19s.; Kitchen, 18s.; Cobbles, 17s.; Hartley, 18s.; Nuts, 16s.; Tanfield Moor, 20s.; small, 11s. Coke, 15s. per 12 sacks. Net cash. Delivered thoroughly screened. Depots. Highbury and Highgate, N.; Kingsland, N.E.; Beauvoir Wharf, Kingsland-road; Great Northern Railway Stations, King's cross and Holloway; and 4 and 5 Wharves, Regent's-park-basin. No Agents.

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For more than 20 years it has sustained an unrivalled reputation throughout the United Kingdom and Colonies as the BEST and SAFEST article for cleaning Plate.

Sold by Chemists, and Ironmongers, &c., in Boxes, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. each, and by the Inventor, J. GODDARD, Chemist, Leicester.

A REAL SEA BATH in your own room, by dissolving TIDMAN'S SEA SALT in ordinary water. Five ounces should be used to each gallon. By taking a daily bath prepared with this Salt you enjoy the luxury and the benefits of a course of sea bathing, minus the inconvenience of absence from home, and are adopting the surest means of giving tone to your constitution. Sold in Bags and Boxes by all Chemists and Druggists. Beware of imitations.

TIDMAN'S SEA SALT invigorates the system, fortifies the constitution, braces the nerves, and prevents cold. A daily bath prepared with this Salt is the surest way of eradicating rheumatism, neuralgia, sciatica, lumbago, gout, glandular swellings, weakness of the joints, &c. Sold in Bags and Boxes by Chemists, Druggists, &c. Beware of imitations.

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The approach of spring indicates the necessity of medicine to purify the blood and strengthen the system against the effects of change of weather and the advent of summer. KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS, being composed of vegetable matter, chiefly acting on the fluids, will be found the best Spring Medicine that can be used.

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Cacao Nibs on the removal of the oil fall into powder, and this powder is Cacaoine. Cacaoine contains neither sugar nor any other admixture whatever. Cacaoine makes one of the lightest, thinnest of warm drinks, and is the most desirable of all for use in the later hours of the day. Cacaoine, by reason of the ingenious method by which the oil is removed, preserves all the fine natural flavour of cacao nibs.

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Opiates, Narcotics, and Squills, are too often invoked to give relief in Coughs, Colds, and all Pulmonary Diseases. Instead of such fallacious remedies, which yield momentary relief at the expense of enfeebling the digestive organs, and thus increasing that debility which lies at the root of the malady, modern science points to CROSBY'S BALSAMIC COUGH ELIXIR as the true remedy.

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Dr. Rooke, Scarborough, author of the "Anti-Lancet," says:—"I have repeatedly observed how very rapidly and invariably it subdued Cough, Pain, and Irritation of the Chest in cases of Pulmonary Consumption, and I can, with the greatest confidence, recommend it as a most valuable adjunct to an other-wise strengthening treatment for this disease."

This medicine, which is free from opium and squills, not only allays the local irritation, but improves digestion and strengthens the constitution. Hence it is used with the most signal success in Asthma, Bronchitis, Consumption, Coughs, Influenza, Night Sweats of Consumption, Quinsy, and all affections of the throat and chest. Sold by all respectable Chemists and Patent Medicine Dealers, in bottles at 1s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each; and wholesale by JAS. M. CROSBY, Chemist, Scarborough.

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The Rheumatism has entirely gone. After twelve months' suffering, I found *two* doses of Munro's Neurodyne cured me.

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Price of a single Truss, 16s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d Postage, 1s.

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Price of an Umbilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. Postage, 1s. 10d.

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ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c.—The material of which these are made is recommended by the Faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support in all cases of WEAKNESS, and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 10s., and 16s. each. Postage 6d.

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IMPRESSIONS of GREECE. By the Rt. Hon. Sir THOMAS WYSE, K.C.B., late British Minister at Athens. With an Introduction by Miss WYSE, and Letters from Greece to Friends at Home by Dean STANLEY. 8vo, 15s.

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